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Stepping Down

Citing ill health, Pope Benedict XVI to resign

Citing advanced years and infirmity, Pope Benedict stunned the Roman Catholic world on Feb. 11, 2013 by saying that he would resign on Feb. 28 after less than eight years in office, the first pope to do so in six centuries.

(Todd Heisler/The New York Times)

Rachel Donadio

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VATICAN CITY — Citing advanced years and infirmity, but showing characteristic tough-mindedness and unpredictability, Pope Benedict XVI shocked Roman Catholics on Monday by saying that he would resign on Feb. 28, becoming the first pope to do so in six centuries.

Speaking in Latin to a small gathering of cardinals at the Vatican on Monday

morning, Benedict said that after examining his conscience "before God, I have come to the certainty that my strengths, due to an advanced age, are no longer suited to an adequate exercise" of leading the world's 1 billion Roman Catholics.

The statement, soon translated into seven languages, ricocheted around the globe.

Benedict, 85, was elected by fellow cardinals in 2005

after the death of John Paul II. An often divisive figure, he spent much of his papacy in the shadow of his beloved predecessor.

Above all, Benedict's papacy was overshadowed by clerical abuse scandals, a case involving documents leaked from within the Vatican, and tangles with Jews, Muslims and Anglicans.

In his handling of the sexual abuse crisis, critics said that his failures of governance

were tantamount to moral failings.

In recent months, Benedict had been showing signs of age.

He often seemed tired and even appeared to doze off during Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, after being taken to the altar of St. Peter's on a wheeled platform.

But few expected the pope to resign so suddenly. "The pope took us by surprise," said the Vatican

spokesman, the Rev. Federico Lombardi, expounding on one of the most dramatic moments in centuries of Vatican history.

He appeared at a hastily called news conference Monday, where he stood by himself at the lectern, with an unopened bottle of mineral water and a dog-eared copy of a Canon Law guide before him.

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Pope Benedict XVI holds Mass at Yankee Stadium in New York, April 20, 2008. Citing advanced years and infirmity, Pope Benedict stunned the Roman Catholic world on Feb. 11, 2013 by saying that he would resign on Feb. 28 after less than eight years in office, the first pope to do so in six centuries.

(Chang W. Lee/The New York Times)

Citing ill health, Pope Benedict XVI to resign

Continued from front

Lombardi said the pope would continue to carry out his duties until Feb. 28 at 8 p.m., and that a successor would probably be

elected by Easter, which falls on March 31. He said the pope did not display strong emotions as he made his announcement but spoke with "great dignity, great concentration and great understanding

of the significance of the moment." Lombardi said the pope would retire first to his summer residence in Castel Gandolfo, in the hills outside Rome, and later at a monastery in Vatican City. □

Key events in the life of Pope Benedict XVI

The Associated Press

Benedict XVI says he is stepping down at the end of the month, lacking the strength to fulfill his duties at the head of the Catholic Church. The 85-year-old German becomes the first pontiff to resign in nearly 600 years. Here are some key events in the life of a conservative pontiff who grappled with a global sex abuse scandal that exploded during his leadership:

- **April 16, 1927:** Born Joseph Alois Ratzinger in Marktl am Inn, Germany, youngest of three children to Joseph and Maria Ratzinger.
- **1943-1945:** Assistant in Germany's anti-aircraft defense and infantry soldier; imprisoned in 1945 in American POW camp in Neu-Ulm.
- **June 29, 1951:** Ordained along with brother Georg Ratzinger in Freising.
- **1969-1977:** Professor at University of Regensburg.
- **March 25, 1977:** Named archbishop of Munich and Freising.
- **June 27, 1977:** Made a cardinal by Pope Paul VI.
- **Nov. 25, 1981:** Named prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith by Pope John Paul II; takes up post in March 1982.
- **April 2, 2005:** Pope John Paul II dies.
- **April 8, 2005:** As dean of the College of Cardinals, Ratzinger presides over John Paul's funeral.
- **April 19, 2005:** Elected 265th pope in one of the fastest conclaves in history. Choosing name Benedict XVI, he says he is merely a "simple, humble worker in the vineyard of the Lord."
- **April 24, 2005:** Installed as pope with Mass.
- **Dec. 25, 2005:** First encyclical "God is Love" signed. Released Jan. 25, 2006.
- **May 28, 2006:** During trip to Poland, visits Auschwitz concentration camp.
- **Sept. 12, 2006:** During visit to Germany, delivers speech at University of Regensburg that enrages Muslims; quoting a Byzantine emperor who characterized some of the teachings of the Prophet Muhammad as "evil and inhuman," particularly "his command to spread by the sword the faith."
- **April 16, 2007:** First volume of "Jesus of Nazareth" completed on his 80th birthday. Released April 13.
- **May 27, 2007:** Signs letter to China's Catholics, urging them to unite under his authority. Published June 30.
- **April 20, 2008:** During visit to United States, prays for victims of Sept. 11, 2001 attacks at ground zero.
- **March 17, 2009:** En route to Cameroon, tells reporters aboard papal plane that condoms are not the solution to AIDS and can make problem worse, prompting widespread criticism.
- **May 11, 2009:** During visit to the Holy Land, lays wreath at Yad Vashem memorial in Jerusalem, says Holocaust victims "lost their lives but they will never lose their names."
- **June 29, 2009:** Third encyclical "Charity in Truth" signed. Released July 7, 2009.
- **July 17, 2009:** Breaks right wrist in late-night fall at summer vacation home.
- **Sept. 16-19, 2010:** During first state visit by a pope to Britain, meets with Queen Elizabeth II, Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams and beatifies Anglican convert John Henry Newman.
- **Nov. 20, 2010:** Revises controversial condom-AIDS comments in book and says male prostitutes who use condoms may be taking a first step toward a more responsible sexuality.
- **March 2, 2011:** Issues sweeping exoneration of Jews for the death of Christ in "Jesus of Nazareth-Part II." Book released March 10.
- **May 1, 2011:** Beatifies John Paul II before 1.5 million people.
- **June 28, 2011:** Tweets for the first time, announcing launch of Vatican news information portal.
- **Oct. 6, 2012** — Pope's former butler is convicted on charges he stole the pontiff's private letters and leaked them to a journalist.
- **Feb. 11, 2013:** Reveals in Latin that he is stepping down Feb. 28 during a meeting of Vatican cardinals, surprising even his closest collaborators. □

NEW ARRIVALS

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NY commuters dig out, navigate slick, slushy roads

Nate Schweber

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As the New York City region started a new workweek Monday, some commuters, especially in Connecticut and on eastern Long Island, still had to cope with the aftermath of Friday's mammoth snowstorm.

For the most part, public transit systems had resumed operating close to a normal schedule, with some exceptions, and most major highways and roads were navigable. The Metro-North Railroad was running fewer trains to New York and was still offering limited service beyond Stamford in Connecticut. The Long Island Railroad also was running fewer trains to New York and was still not running trains east of Speonk and Ronkonkoma. Commuters reported crowded trains.

The Long Island Expressway heading west reopened for the morning commute after the removal of vehicles that had been trapped in the snow.

But traveling was still perilous.

A cold rain made thousands of miles of underplowed side streets as slick as Vaseline.

One commuter, Bernice Cunningham, shook a little

inside a 7-Eleven where she stopped for coffee after giving her husband, Andrew Cunningham, a short ride to the Ronkonkoma train station.

"It was an awful com-

ing over rocky terrain."

The texture of local roads varied from a smooth skin of ultraslick packed snow, to eight inches of slush to bumpy, rotten stretches where veritable potholes

Some workers still had yet to get home, being stuck on the job either by lack of their own reliable transportation, or that of their absent co-workers.

Mike Rivera, 26, has been

morning. "Hopefully I get home tonight."

As cars wobbled through rutted local roads with ice crusts in various stages of decay on Monday morning, Elio Zapparrata, fire



A stranded car is lifted by a forklift truck on the Long Island Expressway near exit 63 in New York. A powerful storm swept across the Northeast this weekend, dumping more than three feet of snow in parts of Connecticut and more than two feet on Long Island and Massachusetts and leaving hundreds of thousands of people without power. (Chang W. Lee/The New York Times)

mute; the roads were so slippery with rain and still unplowed," said Bernice Cunningham, 49, a teacher who lives in Medford. "It was so bad it was like driv-

ing over rocky terrain."

The Long Island Expressway, by contrast, was pure blacktop.

at the Marriott Hotel where he works in Medford since Friday. "Thank God I work at a hotel," he said, running to a neighboring 7-Eleven for coffee on Monday

chief in the town of Manorville, begged the county to send more sanding trucks. "It's a nightmare; all the roads are like an ice-skating rink," he said. □

Army vet receives Medal of Honor for Afghan fight

NEDRA PICKLER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A veteran who helped “defend the indefensible” at a vulnerable Army outpost in Afghanistan received the highest U.S. award for military valor Monday at a tearful White House ceremony that also honored the eight men who did not survive a Taliban attack. President Barack Obama lauded former Staff Sgt. Clinton Romesha’s bravery in fighting back an intense daylong barrage by enemy fighters. The Taliban descended on Combat Outpost Keating in the mountains near the Pakistan border at 6 a.m. on Oct. 3, 2009, shaking Romesha out of his bed into what Obama said has been called one of the most intense battles of the war in Afghanistan.

The Americans were outnumbered 53 to more than 300, but most survived



President Barack Obama bestows the Medal of Honor on retired Staff Sgt. Clinton Romesha for conspicuous gallantry, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013, in the East Room of the White House in Washington. Romesha’s leadership during a daylong attack by hundreds of fighters on Combat Outpost Keating in Afghanistan led to award.
(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

against those odds. “These men were outnumbered, outgunned, and almost overrun,” Obama said. Romesha, 31, listened to the commendation while

fighting back tears, sometimes unsuccessfully, the families of his fallen comrades sitting together and crying near the back of his East Room audience. Other troops who fought that day also watched as the president placed the medal hanging from a blue ribbon around Romesha’s neck.

“I’m feeling conflicted with this medal I now wear,” Romesha told reporters outside the West Wing after the ceremony. “The joy comes from recognition for us doing our jobs as soldiers on distant battlefields, but is countered by the constant reminder of the loss of our battle buddies, my battle buddies, my soldiers, my friends.” Eight U.S. soldiers were killed in the fighting and other 22 wounded, including Romesha, who was peppered with shrapnel from a rocket-propelled grenade in the hip, arm and neck. □



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Three dead in Delaware courthouse shooting

RANDALL CHASE

Associated Press

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) —

Motivated by a yearslong custody dispute, a gunman opened fire Monday morning in a Delaware courthouse lobby just as the building was opening to the public for the day, exchanging shots with police and leaving three people — including the shooter — dead, authorities said. "It happened so fast," said Jose Beltran, 53, an employee at the New Castle County Courthouse who was entering the lobby when he heard two shots. He said he turned around and heard three or more shots as he ran.

Delaware State Police Sgt. Paul Shavack said the suspected gunman and two women are dead. Wilmington Mayor Dennis Williams



Heavily armed police enter the New Castle County Courthouse, Monday morning, Feb. 11, 2013 in Wilmington, Del. The mayor of Wilmington, Del., says a man suspected of killing his wife and wounding others at the New Castle County Courthouse has been killed by police.

(AP Photo/William Bretzger)

said in a phone interview that one of the women killed was the shooter's estranged wife, but Shavack said police had not con-

firmed that was the case and cautioned against information from other sources.

Shavack said did not say how the gunman died. He said two police officers suffered non-life-threatening

injuries.

Delaware Attorney General Beau Biden said at an afternoon news conference that the shooting was not a random act of violence but the result of a custody dispute.

"It's developed out of a long, over the course of many years, custody dispute in the courts of this state," he said.

Earlier, Shavack said the gunman opened fire before he passed metal detectors in the lobby.

Chick Chinski, 62, of Middletown said he was entering the courthouse to report for jury duty when he heard popping sounds.

"It didn't sound like gunfire first at all," said Chinski, adding that he saw the gunman pointing his weapon. □

AP: Senate Committee schedules vote on Hagel

JONATHAN WEISMAN

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WASHINGTON — Frustrated by Republican foot-dragging, Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, called Monday for a committee vote Tuesday afternoon on the nomination of former Sen. Chuck Hagel to be the next secretary of defense. The committee action has been postponed for the past week over evolving demands from Republicans for new documentation on Hagel's past statements, personal financial records and even a sexual harassment allegation involving two former staff members, but not Hagel himself. As action has drawn closer, Republican opponents to a former Senate Republican colleague

have threatened filibusters and even a walkout from the committee.

A Republican official said that Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., had given his word to Levin that he would not participate in a threatened Republican walkout.

"In his 26 years as a member of the committee he has never walked out of a vote, and he won't walk out on this one. It would be disrespectful to Chairman Levin and to the best traditions of the Senate Armed Services Committee," the aide said. But Levin's decision to call for a public discussion and vote, starting at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday ahead of President Barack Obama's State of the Union address, indicated that the chairman still believes that Hagel has enough support to be confirmed. □

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LA fugitive charged with murder of officer

GILLIAN FLACCUS
TAMI ABDOLLAH
Associated Press
RIVERSIDE, California (AP)

— A fugitive ex-Los Angeles police officer with a \$1 million reward on his head was charged Monday with murdering a police officer and special circumstances that could bring the death penalty.

Riverside County District Attorney Paul Zellerbach said Christopher Dornier was also charged with the attempted murder of another officer in Riverside, about 55 miles (90 kilometers) east of Los Angeles, as well as two police officers in Los Angeles.

The LAPD officers and the two Riverside officers were fired on in two separate shootings early Thursday after Dornier became the target of a manhunt suspected of killing a former LAPD captain's daughter and her fiancée the previous weekend.

"By both his words and conduct, he has made very clear to us that every law enforcement officer in Southern California is in danger of being shot and killed," Zellerbach said.

Southern California authorities were investigating hundreds of tips Monday after offering the \$1 million reward for information leading to Dornier's arrest. The manhunt for Dornier, 33, coupled with added security at Sunday's Grammy Awards, left the ranks of the Los Angeles Police Department stretched thin. Along with responding to routine calls for service, police have been pro-

tecting dozens of families considered possible targets of Dornier, based on his alleged Facebook rant against those he held responsible for ending his career with the LAPD five years ago. "Our dedication to catch this killer remains steadfast," Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa said. "We will not tolerate this reign of terror." Police and city officials be-

Dornier was found dead or alive. He called the phrase "ugly" and said he hoped no one else was injured in the ordeal, including the suspect.

As the search dragged on, worrisome questions emerged: How long could the intense search be sustained? And, if Dornier keeps evading capture, how do authorities protect dozens of former police

is as clear of a threat as you can get. The money is always an issue but not when it's somebody's life at stake."

One tip led police to surround and evacuate a Lowe's Home Improvement store on Sunday in the San Fernando Valley, but a search yielded no evidence that Dornier had been there. Residents remained on edge in subur-



San Bernardino County Sheriff's officers Ken Owens, center, and Bernabe Ortiz search a home for former Los Angeles police officer Christopher Dornier in Big Bear Lake, Calif.

(AP Photo/Jae C. Hong)

lieve the \$1 million reward, raised from both public and private sources, will encourage the public to stay vigilant.

"This is not about catching a fugitive suspect, it's about preventing a future crime, most likely a murder," LAPD Chief Charlie Beck said. "This is an act, make no mistake about it, of domestic terrorism."

Beck deflected questions about whether the reward would be paid if

colleagues?

LAPD Cmdr. Andrew Smith said the department has deployed 50 protection details to guard officers and their families who were deemed possible targets. And there are no plans to reduce protection until Dornier is in custody, Los Angeles police Sgt. Rudy Lopez said. "We realize it costs money and it gets expensive," said Chuck Drago, a Florida-based police consultant. "But this

ban Irvine, where the first two killings occurred. Some residents have kept their children at home, others no longer walk their dogs at night.

"If he did come around this corner, what could happen? We're in the crossfire, with the cops right there," said Irvine resident Joe Palacio, who lives down the street from the home of retired police Capt. Randal Quan, who is being protected. □

2 US adoption groups closing

DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer
NEW YORK (AP)

— The lone U.S. adoption agency accredited in Kyrgyzstan is shutting down due to financial troubles, a sudden new setback for about 15 American families battling since 2008 to complete adoptions there. At the same time, another U.S. agency, which specializes in adoptions from Russia, also is closing.

"We see no other choice but to close our doors," said Christian World Adoption, which had handled Kyrgyz adoptions, in an e-mail to the waiting families. The agency, based in Fletcher, N.C., said an array of factors, in Kyrgyzstan and elsewhere abroad, had boosted its costs and cut its income to the point where it would file for bankruptcy. Meanwhile, Adoption ARK, based in Buffalo Grove, Ill., said it would shut down, blaming Russia's recently imposed ban on adoptions by Americans. It said its program in Russia had provided more than half of its income.

The two closures highlight the challenges facing many U.S. agencies that specialize in international adoptions at a time when those are dwindling year after year. Americans adopted 8,668 foreign children in the 2012 fiscal year, down 62 percent from the peak of 22,884 in 2004.

Chuck Johnson, CEO of the National Council for Adoption, said he expected that many more agencies would be closing. □



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Kerry eyes Europe, Mideast for 1st trip overseas



Newly-appointed US secretary of state John Kerry listens to testimony on Capitol Hill in Washington.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

**BRADLEY KLAPPER
MATTHEW LEE**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State John Kerry has been presented with a full plate of global crises as he plots his maiden voyage abroad: Egypt in chaos, Syria engulfed in civil war, moribund Mideast peace talks and North Korea threatening to detonate an atomic bomb while Iran moves closer to developing one of its own. As he seals his transition from legislator to diplomat with his first official trip overseas, Kerry will have to deal with all of these unresolved diplomatic crises even as he looks to put his personal stamp on American foreign policy by cementing traditional trans-Atlantic ties with U.S. allies and preparing for President Barack Obama's upcoming visit to the Middle East. Washington-based diplomats say the former senator and 2004 presidential candidate is likely to

embark on his first trip as secretary to Europe and the Middle East in the last week of February. The exact itinerary has yet to be determined, but Kerry is expected in several European capitals and Israel, the Palestinian territories and possibly Egypt, according to the diplomats. The diplomats spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about the matter. The State Department declined to comment on Kerry's potential travel plans. The trip will highlight some of the issues Kerry has been most deeply engaged in over 28 years on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, the last four as chairman: U.S.-European cooperation over such issues as pacifying Afghanistan and fighting climate change, addressing the rising terror threat from North Africa and finally pressing Israelis and Palestinians into finding some kind of path toward

a two-state peace agreement. With each problem, there is no easy answer — an old adage of diplomacy that Kerry learned well as an unofficial Obama envoy to Pakistan, Syria and elsewhere, but never before as the point-man for administration policy. Just hours before Kerry was sworn in to replace Hillary Rodham Clinton, militants provided a stark reminder of the inherent danger in American diplomacy as a suicide bomber struck the U.S. Embassy in Turkey. And in the days since, Japan claimed that China locked

weapons-targeting radar on a Japanese destroyer and helicopter amid an escalating maritime dispute between the Asian powers. "This is a complicated time in the world," Kerry told a visiting group of college students in marked understatement on his third day at the State Department. Thus far, he has spent most of his time to getting to know his staff and speaking to foreign leaders, and little time publicly talking geopolitics. He echoed the White House's call last week for tougher European Union action against

Hezbollah and decried Pyongyang's threat of a third nuclear test. And at his first official news conference Friday, he warned Iran to seriously approach upcoming nuclear talks with world powers and declared that the Obama administration was exploring new options — primarily diplomatic — to stem the violence in Syria.

Going abroad will be a bigger challenge.

In Europe and the Mideast, Kerry will come face-to-face on foreign soil with demanding allies and estranged partners. □

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Euro ministers host farewell dinner; calm on display

DON MELVIN

PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

BRUSSELS (AP) — The calm that has settled over Europe's debt crisis was evident Monday when finance ministers from the 17 European Union countries that use the euro gathered to discuss a routine agenda, in what is likely to be a much shorter meeting than many of their recent all-night discussions. After discussing a run-down of problems Monday, such as the high unemployment afflicting a number of countries, Cyprus's protracted bailout negotiations and the threat of a currency war, the ministers attending the Eurogroup meeting were readying themselves to give their former boss a proper send-

off.

Jean-Claude Juncker, the Luxembourg Prime Minister, recently quit after eight years at the helm — a period that has seen the euro's successful launch give way to a crisis that raised fears for the currency's survival. Since the start of the eurozone's debt crisis exploded in late 2009, most of the Eurogroup's monthly meetings have dragged on into the wee-small hours as finance ministers struggled to manage a rapidly deteriorating economic situation.

In contrast, the new Eurogroup head, Dutch Finance Minister Jeroen Dijsselbloem, said Monday that this month's agenda would not be "very complex or complicated" and that finance ministers were

looking forward to Juncker's farewell dinner.

That seemingly relaxed approach to the meeting is a reflection of the eurozone's calmer financial mood. Last summer's insis-

countries at the sharp end of the debt crisis, such as Spain and Italy, have fallen and the euro has advanced, partly on confidence that it will remain a viable currency.



International Monetary Fund managing director Christine Lagarde, right, kisses Spanish Economy Minister Luis de Guindos Jurado upon arrival at the Eurogroup meeting, at the European Council building in Brussels, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013.

(AP Photo/Yves Logghe)

tence from Mario Draghi, the president of the European Central Bank, that he would do "whatever it takes" to save the euro combined with another bailout of Greece to ease concerns of the euro's future. The cost of borrowing affecting many of the

However, the crisis hasn't gone away. There are still several issues that could ruin the mood in the markets — as was seen last week when the Spanish government got embroiled in an illegal payments scandal and opinion polls in Italy showed that former

premier Silvio Berlusconi could still be a feature in the country's future. Both events raised fears that Europe's recent calm could be shattered and sent the two countries' share indexes tumbling and borrowing costs rising.

Nonetheless, the generally improved situation gives finance ministers some breathing space to assess their recent actions to stabilize the euro and consider measures that may help the eurozone economy get out of its rut. Figures later this week are expected to show that the eurozone remained in recession in the final three months of 2012, with some economists predicting that it shrank by a quarterly rate of 0.6 percent. "We don't have sand under our feet but we are now on firm ground," said Maria Fekter, Austria's finance ministers. "But the general situation is very fragile." The euro's recent appreciation is also causing concern in Europe, with some fearing that it may make it more difficult for exporters to compete in international markets. □

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Syria:

Rebels score another strategic victory

BASSEM MROUE

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — Syrian rebels scored one of their biggest strategic victories Monday since the country's crisis began two years ago, capturing the nation's largest dam and iconic industrial symbol of the Assad family's four-decade rule. Rebels led by the al-Qaida-linked militant group Jabhat al-Nusra now control much of the water flow in the country's north and east, eliciting warnings from experts that any mistake in managing the dam

may drown wide areas in Syria and Iraq.

A Syrian government official denied that the rebels captured the dam, saying "heavy clashes are taking place around it." The official spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. But amateur video released by activists showed gunmen walking around the facility's operations rooms and employees apparently carrying on with their work as usual. In the capital, Damascus, the rebels kept the battle going mostly in northeast-

ern and southern neighborhoods as the fighting gets closer to the heart of President Bashar Assad's seat of power. The capture of the al-Furat dam came after rebels seized two smaller dams on the Euphrates river, which flows from Turkey through Syria and into Iraq. Behind al-Furat dam lies Lake Assad, which at 640 square kilometers (247 square miles) is the country's largest water reservoir. The dam produces 880 megawatts of electricity, a small amount of the country's production. □

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Egypt: Anniversary of Mubarak ouster sparks protests

AMIR MAKAR
SARAH EL DEEB
Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — Security forces sprayed protesters with water hoses and tear gas outside the presi-

ed successor. The forces were trying to disperse a small crowd of protesters after some of them tried to cross a barbed wire barrier meant to keep them back from

stones. Graffiti scribbled on the palace walls read: "Er-hal" or "Leave," the chant that echoed through Tahrir Square during the 18-day uprising two years ago which ended with Mubarak stepping down on Feb. 11, 2011.

Earlier, masked men briefly blocked trains at a central Cairo subway station and a dozen other protesters

blocked traffic on a main flyover in Cairo. Hundreds rallied outside the office of the country's chief prosecutor demanding justice and retribution for protesters killed in clashes with security forces after Islamist President Mohamed Morsi took office last summer. Egypt has been gripped by political turmoil since Mubarak's ouster in

the uprising sparked largely by widespread abuse at the hands of state security agencies. After he stepped down, Mubarak was replaced by a ruling military council that was in power for 17 months. The rule of the generals was marred by violence and criticism that the council mismanaged the transitional period. □



Egyptian protesters shout anti-Muslim Brotherhood slogans during a demonstration marking the second anniversary of former President Hosni Mubarak's resignation, in Tahrir Square, Cairo, Egypt, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013. (AP Photo/Amr Nabil)

dential palace Monday as Egyptians marked the second anniversary of autocrat Hosni Mubarak's ouster with angry demonstrations against his elect-

the palace gate. Some protesters broke out in chants: "The people want to bring down the regime," while others responded by throwing

Tunisia Islamist leader claims unity government imminent

B.B. BOUAZZA
Associated Press

TUNIS, Tunisia (AP) — An agreement is imminent on a new national unity government for Tunisia to resolve the simmering political crisis brought on by the assassination of an opposition politician, the leader of the powerful Islamist party told The Associated Press Monday. Rachid Ghannouchi, leader of the moderate Islamist Ennahda party, said a new government is expected to be announced in two or three days, as the country that kicked off the 2011 pro-democracy uprisings of the Arab Spring teeters

on the edge of a political crisis. "We are on the road to an understanding," he said. "We are moving toward forming a government of national union." Last week's assassination of leftist lawyer Chokri Belaid resulted in days of rioting after many people held the government responsible for his death, at a time when negotiations to widen the governing coalition were deadlocked. The assassination was the culmination of weeks of rising political violence in which many opposition parties had been attacked by thugs. □

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China seen losing patience with North Korea

C. BODEEN

Associated Press

DANDONG, China (AP)

— China's patience with North Korea is wearing thin, and a widely-expected nuclear test by the latter could bring that frustration to a head.

Beijing signaled its growing unhappiness by agreeing to tightened U.N. sanctions after North Korea launched a rocket in December, surprising China watchers with its unusually tough line, which prompted harsh criticism from Pyongyang. And while China isn't expected to abandon its communist neighbor, it appears to be reassessing ties a year after new North Korean leader Kim Jong Un took office. The question is for how long China, itself under new leader Xi Jinping, will continue to back North Korea's nettlesome policies.

"Perhaps Kim Jong Un



A picture of Mao Zedong, founder of the People's Republic of China, right, and North Korea's late leader Kim Il Sung is displayed on the Hekou Bridge, which once linked China and North Korea before it was bombed in the 1950's during the Korean War, in Hekou, China.

thinks Xi Jinping will indulge him. Perhaps he's in for a surprise," said Richard Bush, Director of the Center for North-east Asian Policy Studies at the Brookings Institution in Washington D.C.

(AP Photo/Eugene Hoshiko)

China is feeling spurned by Kim. Although China welcomed his ascension after his father died in December 2011 and maintained flows of aid and investment, Kim has ignored China's interests in a stable neighborhood with his two rocket launches and nuclear test plan. North Korea announced last month it would conduct a test to protest the toughened U.N. sanctions.

"At the start, China gave him a warm welcome and, I think, some aid. But we got no gratitude. They take us for granted," said Jin Canrong, an international affairs expert at Renmin University in Beijing. "China tried to get closer to him, but it was not successful. China has become very disappointed."

Yet Beijing also sees Pyongyang as a crucial buffer

against U.S. troops based in South Korea and Japan. It also deeply fears a regime collapse could send swarms of refugees across its border. For those reasons, Beijing is unlikely to cut Pyongyang adrift, even if it pushes North Korea harder to end its nuclear provocations and reform its broken-down economy.

"China's not ready to turn the support to North Korea switch to 'off' at this stage," said Roger Cavazos, a North Korea watcher at the Nautilus Institute for Security and Sustainability. North Korea's apparent reluctance to reform its economy ranks among Beijing's biggest frustrations, and the thorny nature of the bilateral relationship is on show along the frigid Yalu River, which forms part of the border. Chinese troops crossed to rescue North Korean forces during the 1950-53 Korean War.

Last week, ahead of the Lunar New Year holiday, dozens of North Korean trucks lined up at a customs checkpoint in the northeastern Chinese border city of Dandong, loaded with bags of rice, cooking oil, cheap electronics and other daily items that their country's collapsed industry cannot produce enough of for its 24 million people.

Further to the south, a much-heralded North Korean economic zone on a pair of islands along the Yalu remains a field of untrammelled snow behind a newly erected border fence, more than 18 months after it was opened with great fanfare. □

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French, Malian troops scouring Gao for rebels

KRISTA LARSON
Associated Press

GAO, Mali (AP) — Malian soldiers scoured the city of Gao on Monday for remnants of the radical Islamic fighters who invaded the town and engaged in an hours-long fight with soldiers before French and Malian forces regained control. Sunday's brazen assault marked the first time the jihadists had penetrated the city of mud-walled buildings since they fled two weeks ago. The attack also showed the al-Qaida-linked militants' intent to fight for control of Gao, which they had ruled for nearly 10 months. However, French President Francois Hollande said Monday his goal is that "not one space of Mali's territory be under the control of terrorists." "The essential part of the Malian territory is today liberated, but we haven't finished our task. There are still terrorist pockets, notably in the extreme north of Mali, and operations are still being conducted by a certain number of groups," Hollande said from Paris. Lt. Col. Salihou Maiga with the national police said

Monday that at least 14 suspects had been arrested following searches in the area and would be transferred to Bamako, the capital. At least five of them were being held inside a building that smelled of urine with a tiny barred window. The metal door was secured with two padlocks. Inside the police station, at least eight people facing interrogation by authorities sat on the floor without handcuffs or restraints. "People were terrorized by Sunday's attack, but all the people have returned to the city now," Maiga said. "Calm has been restored." At least six French armored personnel carriers patrolled the empty downtown streets where the black-robed Islamic radicals had battled for more than five hours with Malian soldiers the day before. The checkpoint to the city where suicide bombers have now twice targeted Malian soldiers also was heavily fortified. "Our forces are right now patrolling the city to dismantle the pockets of resistance," said Daouda Sidiki Dembele, a communications officer with the Malian

army in Gao. Hundreds of Gao residents gathered around the heavily damaged police

headquarters in the center of the city early Monday where body parts lay strewn about. The al-Qai-

da-linked militants concentrated their attack on the police center in northern Mali's largest city. "Yesterday we heard the gunfire and hid in our homes all evening," said Soumayla Maiga as he stood with friends near the heavily damaged offices. "We were stunned when we came out and saw what happened." The radical Islamic fighters from the Movement for Oneness and Jihad in West Africa, or MUJAO, had ruled Gao for nearly 10 months before they were ousted at the end of January. □



French soldiers secure the evacuation of foreigners during exchanges of fire with jihadists in Gao, northern Mali. (AP Photo/Jerome Delay)

CDB: Caribbean posts economic drop in 2012

ST. MICHAEL, Barbados (AP) — The Caribbean Development Bank reports that the region's economic output fell slightly in the past year and is warning countries to increase their productivity levels and remain competitive in the tourism industry. Bank President Warren Smith told reporters that the Caribbean posted a 1 percent growth rate in 2012, with nine member countries reporting a stalled economy and six others a decrease in economic activity. Only two of the bank's 18 member countries posted an economic gain above 3 percent: Belize with its agricultural production and Guyana with an increase in bauxite and gold mining.

Smith noted that the Bahamas saw some growth in its tourism and construction sectors, while the British Virgin Islands reported growth in its tourism and offshore financial industries. Haiti also saw a slight uptick in all sectors except agriculture, while Trinidad and Tobago reported a strong financial sector. Smith noted a weak demand for goods and services in islands including Jamaica, Antigua and Dominica. He also raised concerns about unemployment levels reaching 21 percent in St. Lucia and nearly 15 percent in the Bahamas. Smith forecast a slight economic growth for the region this year but also warned of increasing debt levels. □

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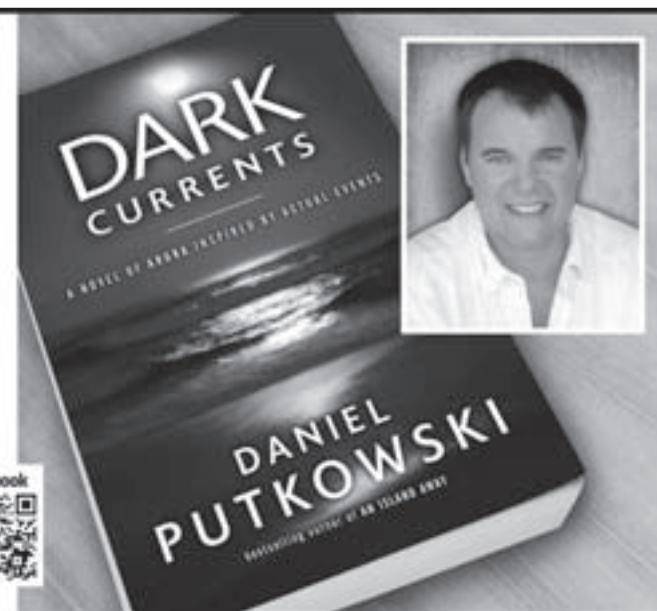
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Venezuela Indians release soldiers held captive

C. TOOTHAKER
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A representative of Venezuela's Pemon Indians said that men in a remote village released several dozen soldiers they had been holding captive.

Levi Gonzalez said he had spoken with Pemon men in the village of Uriman,

where members of the community decided to free the soldiers after government representatives agreed to allow them to keep mining and to avoid prosecution for seizing the soldiers.

Gonzalez said dozens of people in the village and nearby communities, angered over abuses by sol-

diers and military operations aimed at dismantling gold mining equipment and camps, had taken 43 soldiers as hostages Thursday.

"That's what brought us to such an extreme," Gonzalez said in a telephone interview from Santa Elena de Uairen, a town near Venezuela's border with

Brazil. "Mining has always been part of our way of life. We are not getting rich, just surviving."

Gonzalez said that on Saturday members of the Pemon community met with government officials including Army Gen. Cliver Alcala Cordones and Indigenous Peoples Minister Aloha Nunez.

The soldiers were released Saturday evening and Sunday, and the protesters returned weapons that had been taken from the soldiers and hidden in the jungle, Gonzalez said.

Government and military officials did not comment on the incident, which was widely reported in Venezuelan news media. The Information Ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

"This situation began due to abuses by soldiers," said Alexis Romero, a Pemon activist. He said soldiers routinely stop Pemon Indians to search them for gold, often detaining them for several hours.

An estimated 30,000 Pemon live in Venezuela's vast Gran Sabana region in the eastern state of Bolivar, which is covered by rolling grasslands and dotted with plateaus.

President Hugo Chavez's government has been trying for years to crack down on illegal mining that tears up the forests and pollutes rivers. Gonzalez said the government officials agreed to permit mining by the Indians and promised not to prosecute tribal leaders responsible for taking the soldiers hostage and temporarily confiscating their weapons.

Romero said by telephone that under the agreement government authorities also pledged to investigate alleged abuses by soldiers and to round up and deport some foreigners, including Brazilians and Colombians, who are involved in illegal mining. □

Mexico:

'Several' detained in tourist rape case

BERTHA RAMOS
GALIA PALAFOX
Associated Press

ACAPULCO, Mexico (AP)

— Mexican authorities announced Sunday that several people had been detained for investigation in connection with last week's rape of six Spanish tourists in Acapulco, a crime that further blemished the reputation of this troubled Pacific resort.

Guerrero state officials declined to say how many suspects were in custody.

Gov. Angel Aguirre said two of those detained were also being investigated in connection with another rape case. He said the two had been identified by victims in that case, but he added that no identifications had been made by victims in the rape of the Spanish women.

About 40 people who briefly blocked the road to Acapulco's airport said five of their relatives had been detained in the case. They charged that the men were wrongly arrested and were being made scape-



State police check a taxi at a roadblock in Acapulco, Mexico.

(AP Photo/Bernardino Hernandez)

goats.

"It's been 48 hours that our family hasn't seen them. We know nothing about them. One is a nephew and one is my brother," said one of the protesters, who gave her name as Flor Silva.

Authorities declined to comment on whether the protesters' relatives were among those detained in the tourist rape case. The state public safety secretary, Guillermo Jimenez,

persuaded the protesters to end the road blockade in return for being allowed to meet with their relatives. State government spokesman Pedro Julio Velez said the suspects in the rape of the Spaniards were detained by the federal Attorney General's Office and taken to Mexico City for interrogation. Spokesmen for the federal prosecutor did not answer calls seeking comment.

The governor said victims

in a separate rape case had identified two of the detainees as being their attackers.

The Feb. 4 attack on the Spaniards began when a band of masked gunmen broke into a beachfront home before dawn. The attackers tied up the six men at the house, and then raped the six Spanish women there. A seventh woman, a Mexican national, was not harmed during the hours-long assault. □



Magnificent Twin Grand Parades close Aruba's Carnaval #59!

ORANJESTAD / SAN NICOLAS

– This weekend witnessed the grand finale of Aruba's world famous Carnaval, for the most part saying 'goodbye' to 'Carnaval #59', and already looking forward to the 'Diamond Jubilee', or 'Carnaval #60' on Aruba, which will kick off officially in November this year, and following tradition, will close the Sunday prior to Ash Wednesday in 2014! We say Carnaval #59 is 'for the most part' closed for this year, because there is still the official business of the 'Burning of the Momo,' which takes place tonight following a celebratory procession ending at the Aruba Entertainment Center in Dakota. The 'Burning of the Momo' is the symbolic closing of the Carnaval festivities, where bad spirits are chased away, clearing the way for a healthy and prosperous new season.

Following Friday night & Saturday mornings 'Jouvert Morning' Pajama Party, revelers enjoyed the Grand Parade of San Nicolas, which took place all day Saturday in downtown San Nicolas. Before partygoers could catch their breath, the last parade of the season, Oranjestad's Grand Parade, roared through downtown Oranjestad from 1pm till the sun set into the Caribbean Sea!



As we here on the island have already begun preparing for Aruba's Carnaval #60, we hope you have

already begun making your travel arrangements

to return to join in the fun next year! ☐





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William Anthony and Minister Abath talk music and 'the Shoco'

ORANJESTAD - Last year at the end of december William Anthony was guest at Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba Mr. Edwin Abath in the Padú del Caribe Hall in the Hague. He handed over to



on the painting with two Shoco's, (as the Burrowing Owl is known locally) that was hanging on the wall. The Shoco (national bird of Aruba) is much loved by the native islanders and appears on the florin, the national flag, and on postage stamps.

William and Mr Abath know each other from the time they participated in the Festival Internacional de la Voz y la Canción de Puerto Rico and the selection for Festival OTI de la Canción Aruba (Organización de Televisión Iberoamericana).

William Anthony now lives in The Netherlands and dedicates his attention to songs written by Antillean composers of years past. Songs that until now were unknown and never been recorded and songs that have fallen into oblivion. They are now modified with fresh sound. Grandi Grandi

Grandi is the seventh production under the management of William Anthony. The mp3 files are for download in iTunes Store, AmazonMP3 (United States) and the various download portals worldwide.

In the picture is his Excellency the Minister Plenipotentiary of Aruba Mr Edwin Abath and William Anthony, together with the cd Grandi Grandi Grandi in hands. Visible behind them, the painting with the two Shoco's.

- Edited by: Sandra Agatha Johnson. □

Beauty On The Beach

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the Minister one copy of his new single Grandi Grandi Grandi.

In the vivacious conversation about the cd, also fond memories emerged of the original songs on the cd, translated in Papiamentu by William Anthony. The number Nos Ta Uno is very much in the taste of Minister Edwin Abath. The original has the title Somos Novios and is written by the Mexican Armando Manzanero.

The Minister proudly drew William Anthony's attention



Visitors share over '30 reasons' they love Aruba!

Dear Editor,

Hi Aruba! I thought everyone would enjoy this picture sent to us from our family back in snowy New England, where they received over 30 inches of snow during this weekend's blizzard! My husband and I are still in Aruba. Our cousin (featured in the photo) and her husband went back home to cold, snowy Massachusetts last week. Rhonda from Hatfield, MA sent this picture. This is our 24th trip to Aruba it was our cousin's first trip!

- Karen Sikora-Berard

Dear Karen,

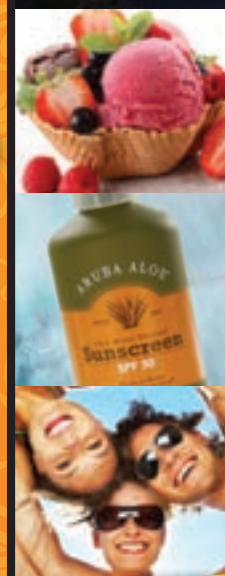
As we always say here on Aruba: we love the beautiful snow from up north, especially in pictures and videos! We hope your family had a great vacation on Aruba, and that they will return to see us again very soon! As for you and your husband, it's so nice to hear from repeat visitors who continue to enjoy our island year after year! We hope you consider Aruba your vacation 'home-away-from-home'!

- Ed.



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CASINO AND SHOPS

Artist Anita Otilia Hugen is the new Caribbean Queen!

PALM BEACH – The Caribbean Queen at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall has been honoring one local female artist who lives and creates here, every month. The Caribbean Queen program was launched since the store opened in late 2011. For the month of February 2013, local artist Anita Otilia Hugen is Caribbean Queen, prominently displaying her beautiful and bold jewelry in the store.



Anita has been drawing, molding, building and experimenting with different materials and techniques, practically since the day that she was born, she says. Having been raised in Europe, she enjoyed a wealth of opportunities to travel with her family and on organized school activities. In her formative years as a budding artist she visited several great cities where culture was highlighted through fantastic architecture, museums and art galleries.

Thus it came as no surprise when with the help of a charismatic high school art teacher, she decided to opt for a career in Fine Arts and Art Education. Anita enrolled at age seventeen in one of the best art schools in the Netherlands where it took her three years to graduate, as a Bachelor in Art Education. She then obtained a Masters degree with a minor in Art History, in the following two years.



Her life changed significantly when she moved to Aruba in 1990, taking a position as art teacher at the International School of Aruba, where she still teach today, with the same great enthusiasm, as the day she started. In her role as educator she is able to share discoveries she makes while working with color, texture, patterns and different media and techniques, with her high school students.



Art is a life long journey, she explains, having enjoyed a Solo exhibition in the Netherlands, several group exhibitions in Europe, as well as Solo exhibition in Aruba and the honor to participate in Ceramics, a group exhibition, here at Atelier 89 in February 2012. Anita's latest endeavor was the Jazz Art, group exhibition at Cas di Cultura, Aruba, in October 2012. Enjoy Anita's jewelry throughout the month of



January at Caribbean Queen, at the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. □

Catch your own dinner with Driftwood! Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby

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NBA Capsules



Miami Heat's Dwyane Wade (3) goes to the basket against Los Angeles Lakers' Metta World Peace (15) during the fourth quarter of their NBA basketball game, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013, in Miami. Associated Press

James scores 32 more, Heat top Lakers 107-97

The Associated Press
MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James scored 32 points on 12-for-18 shooting, Dwyane Wade scored 30 and the Miami Heat beat the Los Angeles Lakers 107-97 on Sunday for their fifth straight win. It was James' fifth straight game with at least 30 points, a franchise record. He's shot better than 60 percent in all five of those games. Mario Chalmers scored 13 and Chris Bosh finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds for the Heat. Kobe Bryant had 28 points and nine assists for the Lakers, who also got 18 points from Earl Clark. The Lakers had eight turnovers in the fourth quarter, while Miami had none. With the win, Miami moved 2½ games clear of the New York Knicks in the Eastern Conference standings.

Continued on page 19



SUPER T

Ligety grabs 2nd gold

United States' Ted Ligety celebrates winning gold after the slalom portion of the men's super-combined at the Alpine skiing world championships in Schladming, Austria, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013. Associated Press Page 18

Ligety wins super-combi for 2nd gold at ski worlds



United States' Ted Ligety speeds down the course during the downhill portion of the men's super-combined, at the Alpine skiing world championships in Schladming, Austria, Monday, Feb. 11, 2013.

Associated Press

ANDREW DAMPF
AP Sports Writer
SCHLADMING, Austria (AP)

— Ted Ligety is no longer just a giant slalom specialist. By winning gold medals in super-G and super-combined at the world championships, the American has shown he's an all-around threat with the 2014 Sochi Olympics exactly a year away.

Ligety added the super-combi title to his expanding resume Monday with a superb downhill and an equally impressive night slalom run under the lights on the icy Planai course. Next up: defending his 2011 title in Friday's giant slalom — the event in which he's won four of five World Cup races this season.

"I never wanted to be a specialist. I've always tried so hard in my career to be a multi-event skier," Ligety said. "To have three world championships in three different events is pretty surreal — that's a cool feeling." Sitting sixth after the down-

hill run, Ligety clocked a two-run combined time of 2 minutes, 56.96 seconds. Ivica Kostelic of Croatia finished second, a distant 1.15 seconds behind, and Romed Baumann of host Austria took the bronze medal, 1.17 back, after leading the downhill leg.

Ligety won the combined in the old format with two slalom runs at the 2006 Turin Olympics, but he had never finished on the podium before in a super-combined, which has only one slalom leg.

The Park City, Utah, native had a super-combi podium finish in sight in Wengen, Switzerland, last month until his right ski slipped free two-thirds down his slalom run. And in the traditional combined in Kitzbuehel a few weeks ago, he missed a gate early in his first slalom run.

"On paper I should be one of the top combined guys and I've struggled a lot in the event over the last couple of years," Ligety

said. "To finally win one in a world championship is awesome."

Ligety opened the championships with his first career super-G win last week, and combined with Julia Mancuso's bronze in super-G, the U.S. Ski Team is leading the championships' medal table after six of 11 events. Host Austria is last with two bronzes. Not bad, considering Lindsey Vonn had a season-ending crash in the opening event and Bode Miller is sitting out this season to recover from left knee surgery.

"And we still have a few guns in the start gate, so we're psyched to be in this position," U.S. Alpine director Patrick Riml said.

While he wasn't the last racer down, Ligety celebrated after his run by skiing around in a circle in the finish area, then let out a series of fist pumps, knowing that it would be hard for anyone to match him.

"I was aware that I was in good position," Ligety said.

"I've been on the World Cup for nine years now so I know how to handle the pressure."

Two-time defending champion Aksel Lund Svindal of Norway stood second after the downhill but straddled a gate in the slalom. Austrian veteran Benjamin Raich was also well positioned and straddled.

Kostelic and Raich, both former overall champions, share the record of World Cup wins in super-combi with five each.

On the steep final pitch of the downhill, Ligety threw his skis into each turn and leaned down and touched the snow with his hip and hands as if skiing GS.

"It's really a testament to my downhill this morning. It was awesome," Ligety said. "I knew I didn't have to push super hard in the slalom." Kostelic had an unusually poor slalom run.

"I did not race tactically," he said. "I just did not get into the rhythm, was too late all the time."

That opened a door for Ligety.

"I knew I could ski down a little more tactically. I didn't have to fully hammer," Ligety said. "That took a little bit of pressure off me." Baumann didn't qualify for Austria's squad for Saturday's downhill and his motivation was evident.

"I saw Ivica's run and I thought, when I give everything, I can do that as well," he said. "I just wanted to go fast. I tried to ski slalom like I used to do six or seven years ago. During inspection I thought, 'this is going to be brutally tough.' But it went better than expected."

The last American to win the combined title at worlds was Bode Miller in St. Moritz, Switzerland, in 2003. Miller won the super-combi at the 2010 Vancouver Olympics, meaning the Americans — assuming Miller returns — will go to Sochi with the defending and world champion in the event. □

Eagles, QB Vick agree to restructured deal

ROB MAADDI

AP Pro Football Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Michael Vick took a significant pay cut to stay with the Philadelphia Eagles and compete for a starting job.

The four-time Pro Bowl quarterback agreed Monday to a restructured three-year contract with the Eagles, just two seasons after signing a \$100 million extension that included \$35.5 million in guaranteed money. The new deal is essentially for one-year, however.

A source familiar with the contract said Vick could earn up to \$10 million in 2013 if he meets all his performance incentives, and the team will void the remaining two years on March 15. That person spoke on condition of anonymity because the terms haven't been released.

Vick was slated to earn about \$16 million next season, including a \$3 million roster bonus. He lost his starting job to rookie Nick Foles last season, but new coach Chip Kelly will give him a chance to win it back.

"I am grateful and proud to be a Philadelphia Eagle," Vick wrote on Twitter. "My heart is in Philly and this community is important to

me."

Vick had a breakout year in 2010, leading the Eagles to the NFC East title, winning The Associated Press Comeback Player of the Year award and starting in the Pro Bowl. But he's battled injuries and inconsistency the last two years. "What I look at is skillset first and foremost," Kelly said. "What he can do, how he can throw the football, how he can beat people with his feet. There are a lot of different factors he has. And you have to look at the landscape for other quarterbacks. I guess the best way I can put this is I agree there is a change of scenery going on here. For Michael Vick, there is a change of scenery, but not a change of address."

Vick has missed 11 games because of injuries over the last three seasons. He sustained a concussion in Week 10 last year and Reid decided to let Foles play the rest of the way because the Eagles were in last place. They finished 4-12.

Vick returned to start the season finale against the New York Giants because Foles was hurt. He finished the year with 2,362 yards passing, 12 touchdowns and 10 interceptions, and

also lost five fumbles.

A former No. 1 overall pick by Atlanta, Vick was signed by Philadelphia in 2009 after missing two years because he was in federal prison for running a dog fighting ring. □



In this Nov. 11, 2012 file photo, Philadelphia Eagles quarterback Michael Vick throws a pass against the Dallas Cowboys in the first half of an NFL football game in Philadelphia.

Associated Press

Continued from Page 17

The Knicks lost to the Los Angeles Clippers earlier Sunday.

Dwight Howard and Steve Nash each scored 15 for the Lakers.

Wade also shot 12 for 18 for Miami, which shot 55 percent as a team and held a 38-29 edge in rebounding. James scored 20 in the second half and Wade had 18 in the final two quarters.

SPURS 111, NETS 86

NEW YORK (AP) — Tony Parker had 29 points and 11 assists in another brilliant performance without his two sidekicks, and San An-

tonio dominated the second half to beat Brooklyn. Two nights after a loss in Detroit ended their 11-game winning streak, the Spurs got back on track quickly behind Parker, who fell short of his third straight 30-point game only because he was so good he sat out the final minutes of the rout.

Danny Green added 14 points and Tiago Splitter had 13 for the Spurs, who were again without Tim Duncan and Manu Ginobili because of injuries as they beat the Nets for the 19th time in 20 meetings.

Joe Johnson scored 19 points and Brook Lopez had 18 for the Nets. □

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Nadal is back, but the old game isn't the same

STEPHEN WADE
AP Sports Writer

VINA DEL MAR, Chile (AP)

— After seven months away treating a torn and inflamed tendon in his left knee, Rafael Nadal left many questions unanswered in his comeback tournament.

Nadal lost both the singles and doubles finals in the space of a few hours on Sunday at the VTR Open in Chile. And Horacio Zeballos, whose three-set victory over Nadal in singles brought him the first title of his career, repeated what Nadal has been saying.

"Not playing has hurt him," Zeballos said. "Four or five tournaments back should get him back in form. I'd say this was the perfect time to play Rafa considering the confidence factor and everything."

In the final, Zeballos served better, hit more cross-court winners from sharp angles, and was quicker on clay than the Spaniard, the seven-time French Open champion who was introduced throughout the tournament as "The King of Clay."

Nadal said the loss was a reminder of what he already knew: returning to challenge the other three in tennis' top four — Novak Djokovic, Roger Federer



Spain's Rafael Nadal returns the ball to Argentina's Horacio Zeballos during the final of the VTR Open in Vina del Mar, Chile, Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013. Nadal lost to Zeballos 6-7 (2), 7-6 (6), 6-4 in Sunday's final of the VTR Open, the Spaniard's comeback tournament after seven months out with a torn tendon in his left knee, in Vina del Mar, Chile, Sundays, Feb. 10, 2013.

Associated Press

and Andy Murray — will be slow and gritty.

"It was a week when we didn't know how the body would respond, the knee," Nadal said. "At least we have seen we can com-

pete up to a certain level. It's true I have had good days and bad days that impact on my play. The tennis aspect isn't the most important thing. The most important was being out

there again in front of fans. But I won't deny I wanted to win here."

Despite the positive spin, Nadal lost to a player he beat in straight sets three years ago in the French Open — 6-2, 6-2, 6-3. Nadal has won 50 tournaments on all surfaces, and Zeballos now has won one. Nadal has \$50 million in tournament earnings, while the Argentine has a mere \$1.3 million from tournaments.

Nadal moves this week to the Brazil Open in Sao Paulo, an event that provides another test on his road to the French Open. He competes again on clay later this month in Acapulco, Mexico.

The torn tendon in Nadal's left knee drew repeated questions.

He said it's better some days than others, and there's still pain. He's avoided surgery, and he says he's been told by doctors the soreness may linger for a few more weeks — even a few months. He wore a white bandage on the knee whenever he played, racing down plenty of loose balls and showing no signs of protecting the knee or, for that matter, his right knee, which has also been injured.

"Every day improves and increases the confidence

for me," he said. "Every day that the knee answers well is a lot of positive energy for me, and that's helping me a lot. The feeling day by day is better — the feeling on court. ... I still feel pain in the knee some days and that's something we hope and think will be improving week by week." Nadal looks slimmer than before, and his powerful forehand appeared to be recovering faster than his serve and backhand.

The Spaniard was wildly popular in Chile, with newspapers tracking down some distance relatives in the country. He was asked repeatedly by local reporters if he would return — this was his first tournament in the South American country — and he said the diplomatic thing: he'd like to, but his schedule next year is tough to predict.

He also promised to talk up the event with players like Federer and Djokovic, which was his response when asked if other top stars might show up in this Pacific coastal resort.

Things have marched on since Nadal's been away — the London Olympics, Grand Slams in the United States and Australia, and Spain's shock ouster from the Davis Cup earlier this month by Canada. □

NHL Roundup

Blackhawks still unbeaten in regulation, win 3-0

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Ilya Kovalchuk and David Clarkson scored less than two minutes apart in the second period as the New Jersey Devils beat the Pittsburgh Penguins 3-1 on Sunday night for their season-high fifth straight win.

It was the second time New Jersey beat Pittsburgh in as many games after the Devils ended the Penguins' five-game winning streak in the first of installment of the home-and-home series Saturday.

Clarkson's power-play goal at 13:20 of the second period to make it 3-0 was

his second of the game and team-leading ninth goal of the season. Johan Hedberg made 23 saves and the former Penguins goalie won his first game in five starts in Pittsburgh as a member of the visiting team (1-4-1).

Tomas Vokoun made 20 saves in his first start at home and James Neal scored Pittsburgh's only goal 15 seconds into the third period. Sidney Crosby, whose season-high six-game points streak ended Saturday, was held without a point for the second straight game.

BLACKHAWKS 3, PREDATORS 0

TORS 0

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Marcus Kruger and Jonathan Toews each scored 66 seconds apart in the second period, and the Chicago Blackhawks remained the NHL's lone undefeated team in regulation by beating the Nashville Predators.

Patrick Kane also added a goal in the third as the Blackhawks wrapped up their season-high six-game road trip with their fourth straight win and improved to 10-0-2 overall and 8-0-2 away from Chicago. Goalie Corey Crawford got Chicago's first shutout of the

season and the sixth of his career making 17 saves.

Back home to start a four-game homestand, the Predators had their 17th consecutive sold-out crowd.

RED WINGS 3, KINGS 2

DETROIT (AP) — Jonathan Ericsson scored with 5 seconds left to lift the Detroit Red Wings past the Los Angeles Kings.

The Kings failed to clear the puck, less than a minute after they tied the game, and Ericsson took advantage.

His slap shot from above the right circle trickled through Jonathan Quick's

pads.

Los Angeles pulled Quick with a minute left to add an extra skater and forward Kyle Clifford got off the bench in time to keep the puck in the Detroit end. Clifford's shot rebounded off Jimmy Howard and Alec Martinez scored on a putback to make it 2-all at the 19:07 mark of the third period.

Pavel Datsyuk and Damien Brunner scored on shots set up by Henrik Zetterberg in the first period and Howard made 45 saves to help the Red Wings win three straight for the first time this year. □

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Snedeker finally gets a win at Pebble Beach

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, California

(AP) — Brandt Snedeker finally got his hands on some silverware by winning the Pebble Beach Pro-Am on Sunday, having been a runner-up to Tiger Woods then Phil Mickelson in tournaments the previous two weeks.

Snedeker finished off a command performance Sunday with a 7-under 65 for a two-shot victory over Chris Kirk, tapping in for par on the 18th hole to finish at 19-under 267, setting the tournament record at Pebble Beach.

In five starts this year, Snedeker already has a win, two second-place finishes and a third. The win takes him to a career-best No. 4 in the world.

Kirk closed with a 64, though he never got closer than two shots. James Hahn, tied with Snedeker to start the final round, had a 70 and tied for third.

Snedeker's score broke the tournament record by one shot held by Mickelson (2007) and Mark O'Meara (1997), who each had a 20-under 268 in the three-course event when Poppy Hills was still in the rotation. "Feels great to finish one," he said. "The last two weeks, playing great but running into two Hall of Famers, really motivated me to go out and prove that I can handle the lead."

Snedeker seized control with an eagle and three birdies on the opening seven holes. Snedeker responded to his only bogey, a three-putt at No. 9, by rolling in birdie putts on the next two holes.

He took a long gaze out at the Pacific while waiting on the 18th tee at Pebble Beach, perhaps reflecting



Brandt Snedeker poses with his trophy on the 18th green of the Pebble Beach Golf Links after winning the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013, in Pebble Beach, Calif. Snedeker won the tournament after shooting a 7-under-par 65 to finish at total 19-under-par.

on an amazing ride over the last six months — winning the Tour Championship to capture the FedEx Cup and its \$10 million prize, his first Ryder Cup team, and a blazing start to the new season.

Snedeker goes to No. 4 in

the world, the highest ranking of his career and second only to Woods among Americans.

"Kind of crazy to think what's happened," he said.

He now heads off on vacation before returning for

increase in hitting fairways off the tee.

Hahn wound up with a 2-under 70 and tied for third with Jimmy Walker (66) and Kevin Stadler (65). The day wasn't a total loss for Hahn. He previously tied for fourth at the Humana Challenge, and his tie for third gets him into Riviera next week. He hasn't missed a cut this year and is already 11th in the FedEx Cup standings.

The only drama on a pristine day on the Monterey Peninsula came from Patrick Reed. His 12-foot birdie putt on the final hole gave him a tie for seventh with Fredrik Jacobson, and kept Jacobson from qualifying for the Match Play Championship by 0.0002 points.

The final spot in the 64-man field based on the world ranking instead goes to Shane Lowery of Ireland, who did not play this week. Mickelson, the defending champion, hit two more balls in the ocean on the 18th hole, but at least this time he didn't slip on the rocks. He closed with a 72 and tied for 60th. □

Associated Press

some tournaments leading to the Masters. Winning a major is the next step for Snedeker, a 32-year-old who has emerged as a veritable threat wherever he plays with a confident putting stroke and a dramatic

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NY cheers its progress in reducing salt

JENNIFER PELTZ
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Twenty-one companies have met targets in a New York City-led effort to get restaurants and food manufacturers nationwide to lighten up on salt, Mayor Michael Bloomberg said Monday. The improved products range from Butterball cold cuts to Heinz ketchup to some Starbucks breakfast sandwiches, according to Bloomberg.

The salt campaign — one in a series of novel but controversial healthy-eating initiatives on Bloomberg's 11-year tenure — takes aim at foods ranging from hot dogs to soup to popcorn. "These companies have demonstrated their commitment to removing excess sodium from their products and to working with public health authorities toward a shared goal — helping their customers lead longer, healthier lives," Bloomberg said.

Noting that Americans eat about twice as much salt as they should and citing its link to high blood pressure and resulting diseases, the city set voluntary guidelines in 2010 for various restaurant and store-bought foods. "Consumers can always add salt to food, but they can't take it out," Health Commissioner Dr. Thomas Farley said at the time. Companies were asked to agree to hit the salt target for categories of food — canned soup, for example — even if not every product made the mark. The targets included cutting salt in breakfast cereals and flavored snack chips by 40 percent, and trimming 25 percent of the salt in cold cuts, processed cheese and salsa. The goal was to cut salt levels in food by a quarter overall by 2014. Participants, according to the city, range from Starbucks to online-order grocery and prepared food maker FreshDirect to giant Kraft Foods, maker of Oscar Mayer hot dogs, Planters peanuts and Velveeta cheese. □

How do we help traumatized kids?

LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO (AP) — Shootings and other traumatic events involving children are not rare events, but there's a startling lack of scientific evidence on the best ways to help young survivors and witnesses heal, a government-funded analysis found. School-based counseling treatments showed the

and teens younger than 18 will experience at least one traumatic event, including shootings and other violence, car crashes and weather disasters. That includes survivors and witnesses of trauma. Most will not suffer any long-term psychological problems, but about 13 percent will develop symptoms of post-traumatic stress, including anxiety, behavior difficul-

"This is a very important topic, just in light of recent events," said lead author Valerie Forman-Hoffman, a researcher at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

She has two young children and said the results suggest that it's likely one of them will experience some kind of trauma before reaching adulthood. "As a parent I want to know what works

whose survivors include students whose high school was destroyed.

Some may do fine with no treatment; others will need some sort of counseling to help them cope.

Studying which treatments are most effective is difficult because so many things affect how a child or teen will fare emotionally after a traumatic event, said Dr. Denise Dowd, an emergency physician and research director at Children's Mercy Hospitals and Clinics in Kansas City, Missouri, who wrote a Pediatrics editorial.

One of the most important factors is how the child's parents handle the aftermath, Dowd said.

"If the parent is freaking out" and has difficulty controlling emotions, kids will have a tougher time dealing with trauma. Traumatized kids need to feel like they're in a safe and stable environment, and if their parents have trouble coping, "it's going to be very difficult for the kid," she said.

The researchers analyzed 25 studies of treatments that included anti-anxiety and depression drugs, school-based counseling, and various types of psychotherapy. The strongest evidence favored school-based treatments involving cognitive behavior therapy, which helps patients find ways to cope with disturbing thoughts and emotions, sometimes including talking repeatedly about their trauma.

This treatment worked better than nothing, but more research is needed comparing it with alternatives, the report says.

"We really don't have a gold standard treatment right now," said William Copeland, a psychologist and researcher at Duke University Medical Center who was not involved in the report.

A lot of doctors and therapists may be "patching together a little bit of this and a little bit of that, and that might not add up to the most effective treatment for any given child," he said. □



Students listen on the first day of school at a temporary high school in a converted store in Joplin, Mo., nearly three months after an EF-5 tornado destroyed six schools and damaged four others along with killing 160 people and devastating a third of the city.

(AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

most promise, but there's no hard proof that anxiety drugs or other medication work and far more research is needed to provide solid answers, say the authors who reviewed 25 studies. Their report was sponsored by the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

According to research cited in the report, about two-thirds of U.S. children

ties and other problems related to the event.

The report's conclusions don't mean that no treatment works. It's just that no one knows which treatments are best, or if certain ones work better for some children but not others.

"Our findings serve as a call to action," the researchers wrote in their analysis, published online Monday by the journal Pediatrics.

best," the researcher said. Besides the December massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut, other recent tragedies involving young survivors or witnesses include the fatal shooting last month of a 15-year-old Chicago girl gunned down in front of a group of friends; Superstorm Sandy in October; and the 2011 Joplin, Missouri, tornado,

UK sees 10th case of SARS-linked virus

LONDON (AP) — British officials have found the world's 10th known case of a new coronavirus, a mysterious disease related to SARS and first identified last year.

The patient, a U.K. resident who had been in the Middle East and Pakistan, is in the intensive care unit of a Manchester hospital, according to a statement Monday from Britain's

Health Protection Agency. Coronaviruses are a family of viruses that are behind ailments including the common cold and SARS. SARS killed about 800 people in a global epidemic in 2003.

In past cases, patients with the new coronavirus had symptoms including acute breathing problems and kidney failure.

There is no proof the virus

spreads easily between humans, but experts suspect humans can catch it from animals such as bats or camels. All the previous cases have had links to the Middle East, but last year, the World Health Organization said the virus was probably more widespread.

It recommended countries test anyone with unexplained pneumonia for the virus. □

No need to leave the room: Bet by TV

WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey
(AP) — Guests at one U.S. casino won't even have to get out of bed in order to place a bet.

The Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa in Atlantic City, New Jersey, said it will become the first casino in the United States to let guests gamble over hotel room TV sets, starting Feb. 18.

Its E-Casino program will let guests with player's cards set up electronic accounts and risk up to \$2,500 a day. Slots and four kinds of video poker will be the first games offered.

The casino says the technology can be expanded to include gambling over hand-held devices anywhere on casino property, which New Jersey recently authorized, and full Internet gambling, if the state approves it.

"This puts us in a position to leverage the technology into true mobile gaming and Internet betting later on," said Tom Balance, the Borgata's president and chief operating officer. "We're moving forward with the future of gaming, and this is that first step."

John Forelli, the casino's vice president of information technology, said it is designed not only as an added amenity, but to get them familiar and comfortable with the concept of electronic gambling ac-

counts for the day when Internet wagering comes to New Jersey. Gov. Chris Christie last week vetoed an Internet gambling bill, but said he would sign one with some moderate changes.

The New Jersey legislature is expected to approve Christie's proposed changes on Feb. 26 and send the bill back to him to sign.

The Borgata does not expect in-room gambling to supplant a significant portion of its action on the casino floor. Rather, it views it as an added attraction for customers trying to decide which of many East Coast casino destinations to visit. Borgata officials said they had no estimates of how much they expect to take in through the system, which is subject to a 90-day trial period by the New Jersey Division of Gaming Enforcement.

The system is built by Allin Interactive, a Fort Lauderdale, Florida, company that specializes in interactive television applications. There are several controls to prevent the system from being used by minors or people excluded from gambling. A customer would have to have a Borgata player's club card, which would screen them to ensure they are of legal gambling age and are not banned from any casino premises.

The PIN number used for

the players' club card would have to be combined with a temporary password provided by the casino's front desk. Patrons would then go to the casino cashier cage and open an electronic account by providing up to \$2,500 in cash, the maximum the state allows to be transferred into the system each day.

The system works using the TV remote control. Players can toggle back and forth among a slots game called Rum Runner's Riches and four kinds of video poker. The casino eventually plans to add more games if the test period is successful.

Players who want to cash out just click a button on



John Forelli, a vice president at the Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa in Atlantic City NJ demonstrates a new in-room gambling system Monday Feb. 11, 2013 in Atlantic City.

the screen and the proceeds of their gambling go into an e-wallet that can be stored for future visits,

or paid out at the casino cashier cage, just like winnings accrued on the casino floor. □

ATENCION

CAP Compania Arubano di Petroleo N.V. ta informa publico en general cu e compania REPSOL lo haci un investigacion di exploracion sismico den lama rond di Aruba.

- E exploracion sismico aki ta tuma luga den cumplimiento di un contract entre REPSOL y CAP a base di articulo 3 y 4 di e "Petroleumverordening zeegebied Aruba".
- E investigacion sismico lo cuminsa dia 15 di februari 2013 y lo dura mas of menos 40 dia.
- E barco sismico SR/V VANTAGE lo rastra un kabel cu un largura di 6 kilometer pa 9 kilometer y un diameter di 6 centimeter na un profundidad di 8 meter pa 10 meter bao di awa.
- Dos otro barco di apoyo OMS RESOLUTION y ELIZABETH-C lo duna sosten logistico na e operacionnan di e investigacion y lo mantene comunicacion cu barconan den e area.
- Tur actividad lo ta na un distancia di mas di 3 kilometer for di costa.
- CAP N.V. ta haci un peticion na tur doño di barco pa coopera pa e investigacion por tuma lugar na un forma sigur y adecuado.

CAP Compania Arubano di Petroleo N.V. brings to the attention of the public in general that the company REPSOL will be conducting a seismic exploration survey offshore Aruba.

- This seismic survey is conducted in fulfillment of a contract between REPSOL and CAP in accordance with articles 3 and 4 of the Petroleum Ordinance offshore Aruba.
- The seismic survey will start the 15th of February 2013 and will have a duration of 40 days approximately.
- The seismic vessel SR/V VANTAGE will tow a submarine cable of 6 - 9 kilometers with a diameter of 6 centimeter at a depth of 8 - 10 meters below sealevel.
- Two support vessels OMS RESOLUTION and ELIZABETH-C will give logistical assistance to the operations during the seismic survey and will maintain communications with other ships in the area.
- All seismic acquisition will be conducted at a distance of more than 3 kilometer from the coast.
- CAP N.V. requests the co-operation of boat owners in order to ensure that the survey is conducted in a safe and proper manner.

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New markets push up L'Oreal profits, sales

PARIS (AP) — Cosmetics giant L'Oreal SA says that for the first time it made more money in emerging markets last year than western Europe or North America — and that helped push sales and profits up.

The owner of brands including Lancome, Maybelline and Garnier hair products said Monday that it made €2.87 billion (\$3.84 billion) in net profit in 2012, up 17 percent from €2.44 billion in 2011.

The company, based in Paris, reported sales of €22.46 billion, up 10 percent from €20.3 billion in

2011 and slightly above the €22.37 billion forecast

by analysts surveyed by FactSet.



Cosmetics giant L'Oreal SA says its "new markets," including Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe, saw more sales than North America or its traditionally core market of western Europe. (Handout Photo)

As many economies in Europe fell back into recession in 2012, the company pushed hard to find new customers in emerging markets. As a result, its "new markets" — which includes Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe — saw more sales than North America or its traditionally core market of western Europe.

The Asia-Pacific region alone saw €4.29 billion in sales in 2012, compared with €5.2 billion in North America and €7.3 billion in western Europe.

CEO Jean-Paul Agon sounded rosy about 2013, hailing the "positive dynamic" in the cosmetics market and pushing his ambition to "conquer a billion new consumers."

While luxury products such as Lancome and Yves Saint Laurent Beaute continued to show good sales in the face of recession, sales of mainstream products also grew.

The company announced dividends of €2.30 per share.

L'Oreal shares fell 0.6 percent on Monday to close at €107.95 in Paris. □

Dell looks to calm shareholders over buyout

NEW YORK (AP) — Dell is trying to reassure shareholders about its proposed \$24.4 billion acquisition by a group led by its founder, saying it considered a number of strategic options before agreeing to the deal.

Dell Inc. laid out the advantages of the transaction in a regulatory filing Monday, three days after a major shareholder riddi-

culed the buyout as a rotten deal that undervalues the business.

On Friday, Southeastern Asset Management Inc. sent a letter to Dell's board of directors. Southeastern CEO O. Mason Hawkins threatened to lead a shareholder mutiny unless Dell came up with an alternative acquisition offer.

Hawkins vowed to wield Southeastern's 8.5 percent

stake to thwart the deal currently on the table. Only Michael Dell, the computer company's founder and CEO, owns more stock with a roughly 14 percent stake. Round Rock, Texas-based Dell said in its filing that it determined with independent advisers that the cash bid by a group led by Michael Dell was in the best interests of stockholders.

Dell also said the deal al-

lows time for alternate bids do that shareholders will be able to see if there are superior options available. Southeastern and other stockholders will be paid \$13.65 per share to leave the company in control of Michael Dell, who founded the business in his University of Texas dorm room in 1984. Michael Dell is contributing about \$4.5 billion in stock and cash to help

pay for the deal. The rest of the money would be supplied by the investment firm Silver Lake, loans from Microsoft Corp. and a litany of banks. The loans will burden Dell with debts that could leave the company with less money to invest in innovation and acquisitions. Dell said Monday that the deal "shifts the risks facing the business to the buyer group." □

Mountain Dew introduces a breakfast drink

CANDICE CHOI
AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — If you don't like coffee or tea, Mountain Dew has a new breakfast drink that might perk you up.

PepsiCo Inc. is rolling out a new drink called Kickstart this month that has Mountain Dew flavor but is made with 5 percent juice and Vitamins B and C, along with an extra jolt of caffeine.

The company, based in Purchase, New York, is hoping to boost sales by reaching Mountain Dew fans at a new time of day: morning.

PepsiCo said it doesn't consider Kickstart to be an energy drink, noting that it still has far less caffeine than drinks like Monster and Red Bull and none of the mysterious ingredients that have raised concerns among lawmakers and consumer advocates.

But Kickstart, which comes

in flavors such as "energizing orange citrus" and "energizing fruit punch," could nevertheless give the company a side-door into the fast-growing energy drink market without getting tangled in any of its controversies. The drink comes in the same 16-ounce (453-gram) cans as popular energy drinks made by Monster Beverage Corp., which also offers options with juice content. And the TV ad features young men skateboarding, reminiscent of the marketing themes used by energy drink makers.

Simon Lowden, chief marketing officer for PepsiCo's Americas beverages, says the idea for Kickstart came about after the company learned through consumer research that Mountain Dew fans were looking for an alternative to traditional morning drinks such as coffee, tea and juice.



PepsiCo Inc. is set to roll out the new drink called Kickstart this month that has Mountain Dew flavor but is made with 5 percent juice and an extra jolt of caffeine and Vitamins B and C. The company is hoping to grow sales by reaching Mountain Dew fans at a new time of day: morning. (AP Photo/Reed Saxon)

"They didn't really see anything that fit their needs," he said.

Lowden said Kickstart was developed independently from a Taco Bell breakfast drink introduced last year that combines Mountain Dew and orange juice.

With the growth of energy drinks such as Monster and

Red Bull expected to slow, Kickstart could also signal the emergence of a new category that plays off the promise of energy and other health benefits, said John Sicher, publisher of the trade journal Beverage Digest.

In a nod to the growing concerns about sugary

drinks, for example, Kickstart also uses artificial sweeteners to reduce its caloric content to about half that of regular soda; a can has 80 calories.

"It's a very interesting experiment capturing a number of attributes," Sicher said, likening it to Starbucks' Refreshers drinks, which promise "natural energy" from green coffee extract.

The promise of "energy" has been a big seller in the beverage industry in recent years, with the energy drink market increasing 17 percent in 2011 even as broader soft drink consumption has continued to decline, according to Beverage Digest. PepsiCo and the Coca-Cola Co. have largely watched that growth from the sidelines, however, with players such as Monster Beverage and Red Bull dominating the market. □

Stock market drifts lower to start the week

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. stocks drifted lower in thin trading Monday, pulling the Standard & Poor's 500 index back from a five-year high. The broad-market index edged up slightly last week, enough to put it at its highest level since November 2007. With little in the way of market-moving news Monday, the S&P 500 slipped 0.92 of a point to close at 1,517.01.

Seven of the 10 industry groups within the S&P 500 dropped. Now, with major indexes near record highs, many think the stock market's six-week rally is ready for a pause.

"The consensus seems to be that we're due for a correction," says Brian Gendreau, market strategist at Cetera Financial Group. "If you compound the increase we've had so far, this year would be the best year ever for stocks. And nobody thinks that that's going to happen."

The best year ever for stocks? For the S&P 500 index it was 1933, when the index rebounded 46 percent in the middle of the Great Depression.

In other trading Monday, the Dow Jones industrial average dropped 21.73 points, or 0.2 percent, to 13,971.24. UnitedHealth Group led the Dow lower, losing 62 cents to \$57.12.

The Nasdaq composite fell 1.87 points to 3,192.00.

Trading volume was light,

with 2.6 billion shares trading on the New York Stock Exchange. That compares with a two-month moving average of 3.4 billion.

Solid earnings reports have helped feed the rally in recent weeks. Of the 342 companies in the S&P index that reported results through last week, two out of every three have

boost profits, which helps lure stock prices higher. And Americans looking for places to put their savings have few attractive alternatives. "I'll go out on a limb and say that I think earnings growth, attractive valuations and pent-up demand will add up to a fairly strong year for equities," Gendreau said.



Trader Peter Costa, left, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, in New York. Stock markets in Hong Kong, mainland China and Seoul were among those closed Monday, Feb. 11, 2013, for the Lunar New Year holiday. Japanese markets were also shut for a public holiday. European stocks were mostly higher in early trading, while Wall Street moved sideways most of the day. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

beat Wall Street's earnings estimates, according to research from Goldman Sachs.

Gendreau pointed to three reasons he believes that stocks still have room to run. Even after the market's recent surge, the typical stock looks fairly priced when compared to underlying earnings. Corporations keep finding ways to

Apple's stock gained following reports over the weekend that the tech giant is developing a wrist-watch-like gadget, a smart watch. The device would reportedly run the same operating system used for iPhones and iPads. Apple rose \$4.95 to \$479.93.

The stock market raced to a stunning start this year. A last-minute deal in Wash-

ington to avoid tax hikes and spending cuts known as the "fiscal cliff" eased fears that the budget cuts could lead the U.S. into a recession. Markets soared in relief. The Dow and the S&P 500 have already gained more than 6 percent for the year. The Nasdaq is up 5.7 percent.

In the market for U.S. government bonds, the yield on the 10-year Treasury hovered at 1.95 percent on Monday, unchanged from late Friday. The yield began the year trading at 1.70 and has moved steadily higher as worries about a recession have dissipated, drawing traders out of the Treasury market, the world's biggest hiding spot. Among other companies in the news Mon-

day:

— Loews Corp. said Monday morning that it lost \$32 million in its fourth quarter, hurt by insurance losses from Superstorm Sandy and sliding prices for natural gas. The holding company, which has dealings in insurance, oil and gas and hotels, is largely controlled by the Tisch family of New York. Its stock sank 34 cents to \$43.51.

— Danish drug maker Novo Nordisk dropped 14 percent. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration refused to approve the company's proposed diabetes treatments until it received more data, which the drug maker said it couldn't supply this year. Novo Nordisk's depository receipts lost \$26.89 to \$165.40. □

Report: AMR, US Airways boards to meet this week

DALLAS (AP) — Directors of American Airlines and US Airways reportedly plan to meet Wednesday to consider a merger.

The Wall Street Journal reported Monday that negotiators were still considering the makeup of the combined company's board and an exact role for the CEO of American parent AMR Corp.

US Airways declined to comment and AMR did not return messages.

The companies are trying to finish a deal before Fri-

day, when a confidentiality agreement covering some AMR bondholders expires. That could result in public disclosure about negotiation details.

If the two carriers were to strike a deal, it would create the world's biggest airline by passenger traffic, although United Continental Holdings Inc. would still be bigger if regional affiliates are counted.

AMR has been operating under bankruptcy protection since November 2011. □

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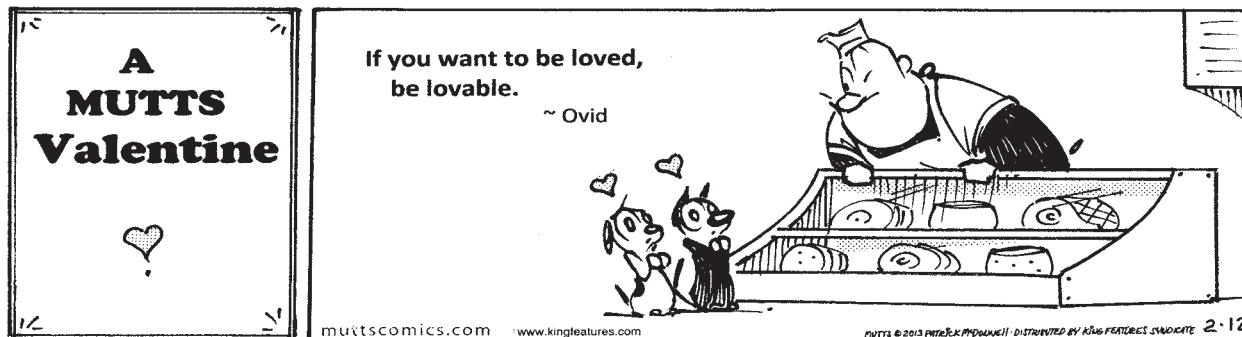
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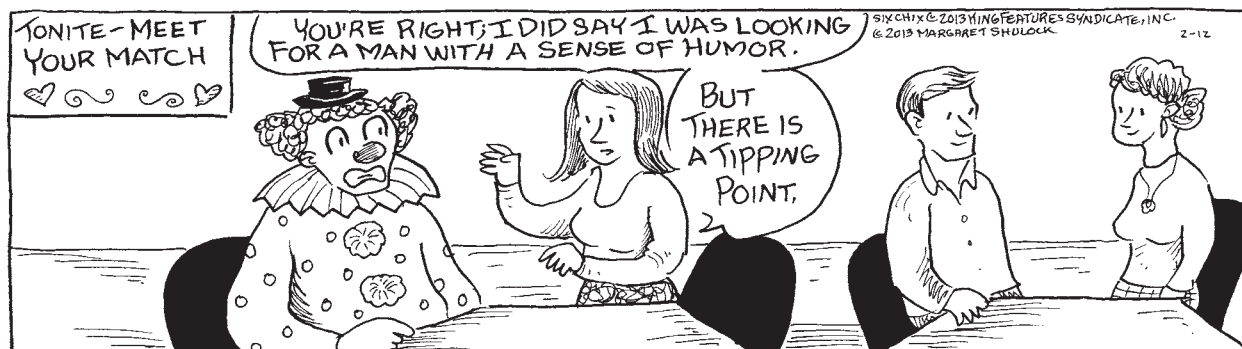


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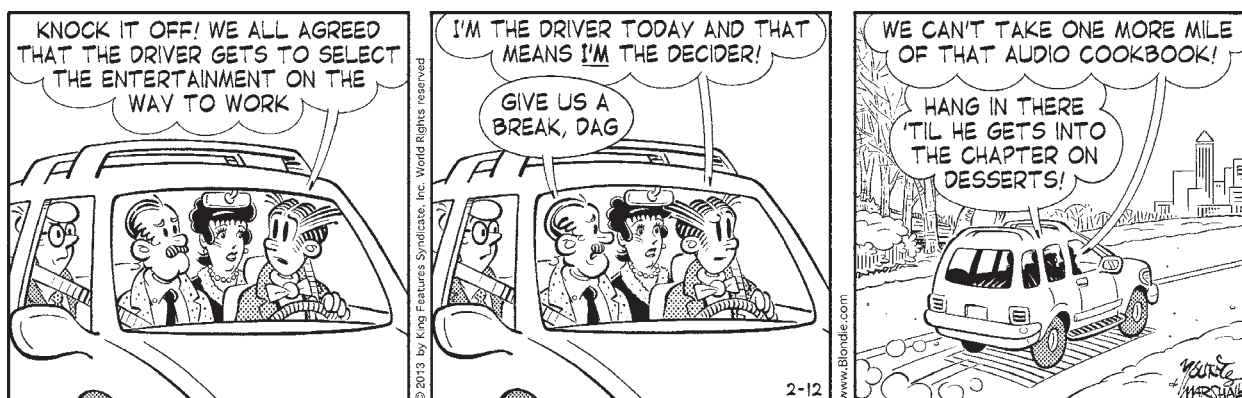
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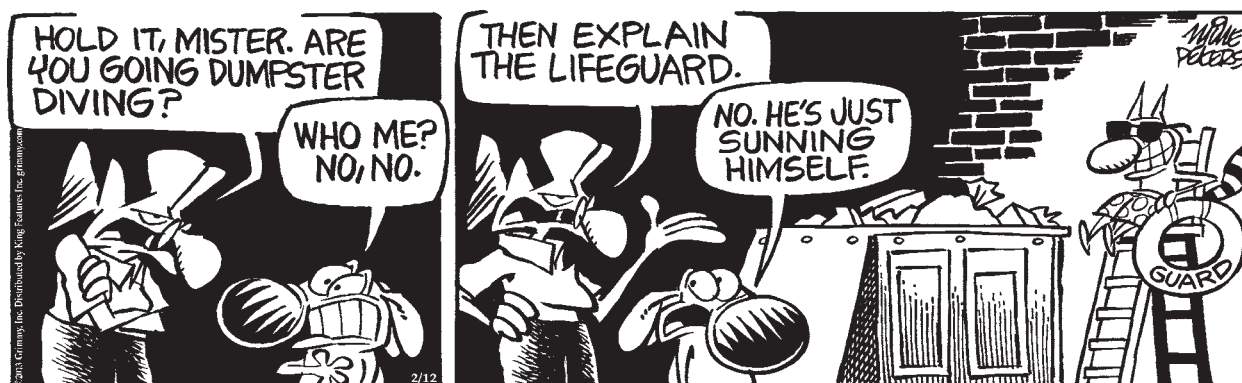
6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			9	1	4			
		9				6		
	5			3			2	
4								9
2		6	1	8	5	7		3
5								2
	6			5			3	
		2				4		
			8	7	6			

Difficulty Level ★★

2/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

4	5	9	6	7	3	8	2	1
8	3	2	1	9	5	6	4	7
7	6	1	8	2	4	5	9	3
6	2	3	5	8	9	1	7	4
5	8	4	2	1	7	3	6	9
9	1	7	3	4	6	2	5	8
1	9	8	7	5	2	4	3	6
3	4	5	9	6	8	7	1	2
2	7	6	4	3	1	9	8	5

ACROSS

- Not nuts
- Breakfast, lunch & dinner
- Slap
- MGM logo
- Tiny bit of land in the ocean
- Use a beeper
- Skunk's defense
- Backbone
- Lofty poems
- Punishment
- Neatest
- Argon or xenon
- Of the kidneys
- Scatter
- Light brown
- Instruct
- ___ on; trampled
- Pigsty
- Newark, New

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15					16			
17				18					19			
20				21			22		23			
			24			25						
26	27	28			29			30	31	32	33	
34				35				36				
37				38			39			40		
41		42				43				44		
45					46				47			
		48	49			50						
51	52	53				54			55	56	57	
58				59	60				61			
62					63				64			
65					66				67			

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/12/13

Monday's Puzzle Solved

DAVIS	SPAN	PESO
AGENT	KALE	EVIL
MENSA	ILLS	NEED
ESTIMATE	TWINGE	
	DIES	FLATTER
PREENS	IRENE	
LAW	AORTA	ENACT
USER	POEMS	TILE
SHRED	AMEND	DUN
	GUESS	ERASED
EERIE	KEEN	
BLASTS	PARAGONS	
BUNT	AWAY	MOVIE
EDGE	YOGA	ERECT
DEER	SEEK	RANKS

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2/12/13

DOWN

- Make a mess at the table
- Nurse's assistant
- Morning's end
- Fast plane
- Stacks
- Soil Turner
- Umbrella
- Takes tiny bites
- Adjusting a piano
- Vagrant
- Cuban dance
- Use bad words
- ___ up; bound
- Uncommon
- School subj.
- Celebration
- Peru's capital
- TV show award
- Bodies of water
- Prius or Lexus

Classifieds



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Plat Plus Holiday 51 OV -\$42k
Plat Plus NY 52 OV -\$49k
GOLD Season
OS \$10k OV \$9500
Oceanfront \$17k
3 BEDRM OV \$17,000
Marriott Aruba Ocean Club
Platinum 2B OV \$19k
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Room 1407 from Feb. 2th to Feb. 23th
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ocean view \$9.500
Studio wk 7 Room #431B (thu) ocean
view \$8500
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floor \$7500

Amsterdam Manor

2 bdr wk 1 true 52 (all 52 weeks) Room
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remain nice view \$8000
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Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

Emergency Numbers



Emergency	911
Police	100
Fire Dept.	115
Fire Dept. II	582-1108
Police Tipline	11141
Hospital	527-4000

Oranjestad

Ambulance	582-1234
Police	582-4000

San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Police Station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

Services

Information	118
Setar	582-5151
Taxi	582-2116
Taxi- Tas	587-5900
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Taxi D.T.S.	587-2300
Service Aruba	583-3232

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Jet Blue	Tel: 588-2244
Spirit Airlines	Tel: 582-7117
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Tiara Air	Tel: 588-4272
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Anonymity guaranteed

Foundation Anti-Droga Aruba

(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

Foundation Respetami

Tel: 582-4433

Diabetic Foundation Arubano

Tel: 583-3808

Narcotics Anonymous

Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor pa Prohimo

Tel: 583-3354 / 586-6976

Women in Difficulties Foundation

Tel: 583-5400

Latest Earth satellite launches from U.S. coast

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, California (AP) —

A satellite launched into space Monday will keep closer tabs on Earth's glaciers, crops, forests and shorelines, continuing a tradition that began four decades ago.

The Landsat satellite was boosted into orbit by an Atlas V rocket shortly before 11:30 a.m. local time, more than an hour after lifting off from the seaside Vandenberg Air Force Base under mostly clear skies.

Mission controllers tracked the rocket's path as it streaked in a southwesterly direction over the Pacific and climbed into space. Cheers erupted in the control room when engineers received word of spacecraft separation.

"Give yourselves a pat on the back, shake each other's hand, hug each other, cry a little bit and then go celebrate," said NASA Administrator Charles Bolden Jr., who monitored the launch from mission control.

The \$855 million mission is the latest in a string of satellites that has kept a continuous eye on Earth's natural resources from space. Since the first Landsat launch in 1972, the satellites have been key witnesses to history, documenting the 1980 Mount St. Helens eruption and the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster.

Through the years, the Landsat satellites have monitored drought conditions, global crop output, shrinking glaciers and the effects of urban sprawl.

On the eve of the launch, Bolden reflected on the program's longevity, noting that the satellites have given people unprecedented views of Earth.

"Each time we fly, we learn something different we didn't know about Earth," Bolden said.

NASA assistant launch director Tim Dunn said there

gone better today," Dunn said in a post-launch interview on NASA TV. "It really was an absolutely smooth countdown."

The newest Landsat is

reaches 440 miles above Earth, the satellite will zip around the planet 14 times a day, snapping hundreds of pictures that will be beamed back to ground

out period, day-to-day operations will be turned over to the U.S. Geological Survey, which intends to make images and data free on the Internet as in previous Landsat missions. NASA developed the spacecraft and its two instruments.

The satellite will operate for five years, though there is enough fuel on board to last 10 years, said Frank Kelly, director of the USGS Center for Earth Resources Observations and Science in Garretson, South Dakota. The latest satellite joins Landsat 7, launched in 1999. While Landsat 7 continues to provide daily observations,

a problem with one of its instruments has cut the amount of data it can gather.

The USGS recently decided to retire its Landsat 5 satellite after nearly 30 years in service.

USGS scientist Roger Auch said he can't wait for images from the latest Landsat. "I'm excited to look at the imagery because it's going to be sharper than we dealt with before. I tend to look at things visually, so it should be looking like hi-def TV," he said. □



In this Sunday, Feb. 10, 2013 photo provided by NASA, the United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas-V rocket with the Landsat Data Continuity Mission (LDCM) spacecraft onboard is seen at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif. Associated Press

were no issues with Monday's launch.

"Things could not have

equipped with sensors that are more powerful than its predecessors. Once it

stations in South Dakota, Alaska and Norway.

After a three-month check-

Contest seeks underworldly names for 2 Pluto moons

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) — Want to name Pluto's two tiniest moons? Then you'll need to dig deep into mythology.

Astronomers announced a contest Monday to name the two itty-bitty moons of Pluto discovered over the past two years.

Three Pluto moons already have names associated with Hades and the underworld. They are Charon, the ferryman of Hades; the half-human, half-fish spirit Nix; and the multi-headed monster Hydra.

The two unnamed moons need similarly shady references. Right now, they go by the bland titles of P4 and P5. They're no more than 15 to 20 miles (24 to 32 kilometers) across.

Online voting will last two weeks. Twelve choices are available at the website "plutorocks." Choices include the hero who slew Hydra, Hercules; and Styx, the river to the underworld. Write-in suggestions are welcomed. □



This file image provided by NASA on Feb. 22, 2006 from its Hubble Space Telescope shows Pluto and three of its five moons. Astronomers announced a contest Monday, Feb. 11, 2013 to name the two tiny moons of Pluto discovered over the past two years. Associated Press

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Bruce Willis gets French honor, opposes 75% tax

THOMAS ADAMSON

PARIS (AP) — Actor Bruce Willis has been awarded the Commander of the Arts in France for his contribution to cinema.

The 57-year-old, whose latest film is "A Good Day to Die Hard," told the Paris ceremony Monday night that he feels honored that his work has been recognized. He attended the event with his wife, Emma Heming.

Willis was born in Europe and said he feels at home in France. But the star said he opposes President Francois Hollande's plan to tax the richest at 75 percent and hopes he would be able to complain about it if he lived in France.

Willis also said in an interview that he thinks there'll be more "Die Hard" movies to come. The one out now is the fifth. □



American movie star Bruce Willis smiles after being awarded with the medal of Commander of Arts and Letters by French culture minister Aurelie Filippetti, in Paris, Monday Feb. 11, 2013. Associated Press



This undated publicity image released by Universal Pictures shows Jason Bateman, right, and Melissa McCarthy in a scene from, "Identity Thief." Associated Press

'Identity Thief' swipes No. 1 spot with \$36.6M

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Identity Thief" has turned out to be the real thing at the North American box office. The comedy starring Jason Bateman and Melissa McCarthy debuted at No. 1 with a \$36.6 million opening weekend, according to studio estimates Sunday. "Identity Thief" opened solidly despite the winter storm that buried much of the U.S. Northeast. Distributor Universal Pictures estimates the storm might have choked off as much as 10 percent of the movie's business.

"It took such a chunk out of the business this weekend. But we can't control Mother Nature," said Nikki Rocco, Universal's head of distribution. "We probably could have hit \$40 million if it weren't for the weather this weekend."

The previous weekend's top movie, the zombie romance "Warm Bodies," fell to No. 2 with \$11.5 million. That raises its domestic total to \$36.7 million.

The weekend's other new

wide release, Steven Soderbergh's thriller "Side Effects," had a modest opening of \$10 million, coming in at No. 3.

Tom Cruise's 1986 hit "Top Gun" took flight again in theaters with a 3-D reissue that pulled in \$1.9 million in narrow release of 300 theaters. The movie has a short run on the big-screen leading up to its Feb. 19 3-D release on DVD and Blu-ray.

Overall domestic revenues were down sharply from a year ago, when four movies had big openings — "The Vow," "Safe House," "Journey 2: The Mysterious Island" and a 3-D reissue of "Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace."

Receipts totaled \$105 million, down 45 percent from the same weekend last year — which was the only non-holiday weekend to have four movies open with more than \$20 million, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com.

"The same weekend a year ago was such a tremendous weekend," said Hollywood.com analyst

Paul Dergarabedian. "It's really tough to live up to a weekend like we had last year."

It was sort of a foregone conclusion that this was going to be a down weekend."

"Identity Thief" came in above industry expectations despite the storm and poor reviews for the comedy, which stars Bateman as a man chasing down a con artist (McCarthy) who has racked up thousands of dollars of charges in his name.

The combination of the actors and the premise made it a review-proof comedy, Rocco said.

"I think people just want to be entertained," Rocco said. "The chemistry between Jason and Melissa is the reason why this picture is doing so well."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday. □



In this May 1, 2011 file photo, musician and gun rights activist Ted Nugent addresses a seminar at the National Rifle Association's convention in Pittsburgh. Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Republican congressman says he's invited rocker Ted Nugent, who has referred to President Barack Obama's administration as "evil, America-hating," to the State of the Union address.

Rep. Steve Stockman of Texas said Monday on his website that Nugent will be his guest for the president's speech Tuesday night.

Stockman has talked of impeaching Obama over his gun control proposals. In a speech to the National Rifle Association during the 2012 campaign, Nugent said that if Obama were re-elected, the longtime gun-control opponent would either be "dead or in jail."

Nugent's remarks led to meetings with representatives of the Secret Service. □

Beyonce covers Vogue's March issue



This magazine cover image released by Vogue shows singer Beyonce on the March 2013 issue of the popular fashion magazine

Associated Press.

Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP)—Beyonce calls the making of her up-

coming HBO documentary "Life is But a Dream" a therapeutic process.

She tells the March issue of Vogue, "this movie healed me in so many ways" and thinking about it makes her "want to cry."

The film addresses topics that the notoriously private singer normally doesn't address in public. It chronicles her 2011 decision to no longer have her father Matthew Knowles as her manager, her miscarriage and even the rumors that she was faking her pregnancy with daughter Blue Ivy by really using a surrogate.

"That was very odd," says the singer.

"Life is But a Dream" airs Feb. 16 on HBO. □

Lord brings Caribbean voice to science fiction

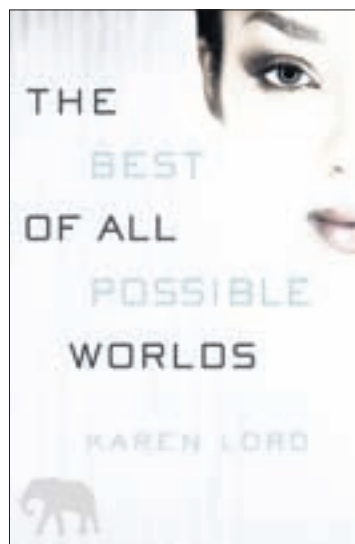
JENNIFER KAY
Associated Press

Science fiction gets a Caribbean perspective in Barbados-based Karen Lord's "The Best of All Possible Worlds."

The ambitious novel follows the plight of the male survivors of a superior human civilization, reduced to lonely refugees by the annihilation of their home planet. They settle on a galactic hinterland that's home to their very distant relatives, along with pioneers and misfits making the best of homesteads, uncertainty and dismissal by supposedly superior societies.

Lord imagines the planet as an expanded Caribbean, a complicated population subtly divided by physical traits, lineage and language. She trades, though, the Afro-Caribbean folk traditions that influenced her first novel, "Redemption in Indigo," for the works of Ray Bradbury as inspiration for the quest at the heart of "The Best of All Possible Worlds."

The survivors must navigate tense conflicts over beliefs, social customs and the trafficking of goods and



This book cover image released by Del Rey shows "The Best of All Possible Worlds," by Karen Lord.

Associated Press

people as they try to find their place in a new world. Their search for wives and stability is by turns amusing and harrowing as they balance the rigid traditions of their past with the habits of a culture far more accustomed to migration and upheaval.

"The Best of All Possible Worlds" is overlong and its narration can be clumsy, but it poses an interesting question: What parts of you do you fight to preserve when everything you know suddenly changes? □



This TV image released by ABC shows Anthony Edwards in a scene from "Zero Hour." Edwards plays Hank Galliston, a magazine publisher who descends into an historical mystery after his wife is kidnapped. "Zero Hour," premieres Feb. 14, 2013 on ABC.

Associated Press

A decade after 'ER,' Edwards back on TV

DAVID BAUDER
AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—A decade after Dr. Mark Greene hung up his white lab coat for good on "ER," Anthony Edwards is back as the star of a new television series.

He plays Hank Galliston, a magazine publisher wrapped up in an historical mystery after his wife is kidnapped on ABC's "Zero Hour," which premieres Feb. 14 at 8 p.m. EST. The action thriller requires an audience to concentrate as the story unfolds layer by layer.

The road back to series television took Edwards many miles to travel—literally thousands upon thousands. Edwards' character Greene was the heart of what was then television's most popular drama before the actor bowed out after eight years. Upon leaving, "I didn't really have a plan other than I knew I wasn't going to jump into a series again and I knew that I was really tired and burnt out," he said. Professionally, maybe. Personally, Edwards had a clear strategy. The California native moved

his wife and four children to New York. He was going to spend time raising his kids and give his artist wife time to establish her career, before they took off on a dream adventure. While fellow actors George Clooney and Julianna Margulies left "ER" quickly to try other things, Edwards committed himself to a four-year contract. At the time, the commitment seemed huge—four years seems a lot longer at age 36 than it does now, when he's 50—but the decision set him up financially for life.

He bought a plane and took the family (and two teachers) on a 310-day trip around the world, through Africa, India, Southeast Asia and just about every exotic place you could imagine.

"It sounds like 'Howdy Doody,'" Edwards said. "But I've never met the older man who wishes he had spent less time with his kids while they were young. You don't meet anybody who says, 'God, I wish I had worked harder and was gone more.'"

He had an opportunity that few people have.

"I've always been able to

pay for what I needed and always done what I've wanted," he said. "It got crazy when it was, yeah, we can buy a plane and go around the world, but that wasn't the goal. That was no more excessive than when I was 20 and I could buy a \$150 pair of boots because I wanted them. It feels extravagant in the same way."

He didn't leave the business. Edwards was always comfortable behind the scenes, and had been close to leaving acting for directing before getting the "ER" job. He has his own production company, Grand Central Entertainment, and was an executive producer of HBO's "Temple Grandin." He did some film acting, in "Zodiac" and the memorable flop "Motherhood."

Showtime's loss proved ABC's gain. Grand Central developed a series about a high-end public relations firm that Edwards had planned to act in and when Showtime passed, he found himself with free time. Edwards started looking at other scripts and found "Zero Hour" to be "a total page-turner." □

Fitness For Office



GAIL COLLINS
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Our topic for today is: How much do we care about physical fitness in an elected official? Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey recently had a cross-continental shouting match with Dr. Connie Mariano, a former White House physician who said the governor's weight is "almost like a time bomb waiting to happen," adding, "I worry about this man dying in office." Mariano's concern is probably not at the nail-biting, walking-the-floor-at-night level. After all, she lives in Arizona, and there must be tens of thousands of overweight executives in need of attention, scattered all over the landscape between there and New Jersey. The governor's size also does not appear to be a pressing concern for the majority of his constituents, who currently seem so enamored that they'd vote him back into office if he was too large to get out of the upstairs bedroom without assistance from emergency responders.

The governor says he's very healthy and that "there is a plan" for losing weight. But there is also a plan for totally funding the state employee pension system. I wouldn't hold your breath. There's a national accord that thin is generally better than fat. However, it's hardly the biggest issue when you're picking a governor. There are citizens all over the country who would trade their more compact leaders for Christie in a second. Just ask somebody in Pennsylvania. Or Illinois. The guy in Florida has the physique of a greyhound and the state is totally miserable. In 2006, New Yorkers elected Eliot Spitzer, a man who could not possibly have looked fitter. We probably had the best BMI in the National Governors Association. Just over a year later, he was gone in a sex scandal. You had to wonder if exceptional leanness might occasionally be accompanied by exceptional friskiness. As we all know, a governor in South Carolina once vanished for what his staff claimed were body-toning hikes on the Appalachian Trail when he was actually committing adultery in Argentina. Being a governor is not normally a physically demanding job. You certainly have your crises — Christie got

through a terrible one during the Sandy storm. But day to day, week to week, the effort level is often pretty much what you choose to make it. "Getting to be governor is the hardest part," former Gov. William Weld of Massachusetts once told me. "I used to go on vacation for a week at a time, and I wouldn't even call in." After the Spitzer scandal, New York was virtually governor-free for several years, due to one thing or another. It wasn't terrific, yet we got along. New Jersey is currently awash in interesting political arguments. One of its senators, Robert Menendez, is in a veritable typhoon of ethics allegations. The other, Frank Lautenberg, is trying to decide whether to run for re-election at age 90. Lautenberg's refusal to get out of the way and retire has posed a great inconvenience for Mayor Cory Booker of Newark, who finally got tired of waiting and just sort of assumed. "I've announced my intention to run, but the reality is ... we've got a good senator," said Booker. "He's been loyal. He's been there for a long time. And I think he's got a decision to make."

There's nothing like "he's been loyal," as an encomium for 30 years of public service. Although it's way better than Lautenberg's defense of his colleague Menendez. ("If there are infractions as they are reported, it's too bad.") Running for office in your 10th decade might pose performance questions itself. Except that being in the Senate makes being a governor look like working in the salt mines. Most weeks all the critical legislative duties could be carried out while undergoing a colonoscopy. Lautenberg, who's very wealthy and well known, is unencumbered by the normal senatorial need to raise money, get publicity and run from one 10-minute meeting to the next like a headless chicken. (Booker would be terrific at those parts.) Anyhow, if all else fails, Geraldo Rivera is looking at the Republican nomination. But about Chris Christie. He's also being talked about as a possible presidential candidate. Now there's a physical challenge for you. Have you noticed what the job has done to Barack Obama? We aren't thinking about the 2016 election yet, out of deference to national sanity. When we do, we will have to take the fitness matter seriously. On the plus side, if Christie did run, we would get to talk a lot about Grover Cleveland, an opportunity that truly does not come up often enough. Cleveland weighed about 300 pounds when he ran for president and his supporters regarded that as an asset. ("There is a decided tendency toward corpulence — as is usually the case in vital temperaments," wrote a campaign biographer.) Also, I will get to point out that William Henry Harrison only lasted a month, and he was thin as a rail. □



Florence And The Drones



DAVID BROOKS
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This winter I'm taking part in a great course at Yale called Grand Strategy. We're reading strategic thought from Sun Tzu and Pericles straight through to Churchill and George F. Kennan. This week we read Machiavelli. Machiavelli is a tonic because he counteracts the sentiments of our age. We're awash in TV news segments celebrating the human spirit, but Machiavelli had a lower estimation of our worth.

"For it may be said of men in general that they are ungrateful, voluble, dissemblers, anxious to avoid danger and covetous of gain," he writes in "The Prince." "It needs to be taken for granted that all men are wicked and that they will always give vent to the malignity that is in their minds when opportunity offers," he adds in "The Discourses."

The conventional view is that Machiavelli believed that since people are brutes then everything is permitted. Leaders should do anything they can to hold power. The ends justify the means. In fact, Machiavelli was a moralistic thinker. He wrote movingly of his love for his city, Florence. His vision of a great and unified Italy was romantic and idealistic. He barely goes a page without some appeal to

honor and virtue.

He just had a different concept of political virtue. It would be nice, he writes, if a political leader could practice the Christian virtues like charity, mercy and gentleness and still provide for his people. But, in the real world, that's usually not possible. In the real world, a great leader is called upon to create a civilized order for the city he serves. To create that order, to defeat the forces of anarchy and savagery, the virtuous leader is compelled to do hard things, to take, as it were, the sins of the situation upon himself. The leader who does good things cannot always be good himself. Sometimes bad acts produce good outcomes. Sometimes a leader has to love his country more than his soul. Since a leader is forced by circumstances to do morally suspect things, Machiavelli at least wants him to do them effectively. Machiavelli is full of advice. If you have to do something cruel, do it fast; if you get to do something generous, do it slowly. If you lead a country, you have more to fear from the scheming elites than the masses, so you should try to form an alliance with the people against the aristocracy.

When you read Machiavelli, you realize how lucky we are. Unlike 16th-century Florence, we have a good Constitution that channels conflict. We have manners, respect for law and social trust that softens behavior, at least a bit. Even in the realm of foreign affairs, we've inherited an international order that restrains conflict. Our ancestors behaved savagely to build our world, so we don't have to. But it's still not possible to rule with perfectly clean hands. There are still terrorists out there, hiding in the shadows and plotting to kill Americans. So even today's leaders face the Machiavellian choice: Do I have to be brutal to protect

the people I serve? Do I have to use drones, which sometimes kill innocent children, in order to thwart terror and save the lives of my own?

When Barack Obama was a senator, he wasn't compelled to confront the brutal logic of leadership. Now in office, he's thrown into the Machiavellian world. He's decided, correctly, that we are in a long war against al-Qaida; that drone strikes do effectively kill terrorists; that, in fact, they inflict fewer civilian deaths than bombing campaigns, boots on the ground or any practical alternative; that, in fact, civilian death rates are dropping sharply as the CIA gets better at this. Acting brutally abroad saves lives at home.

Still, there's another aspect of Machiavellian thought relevant to the drone debate. This is a core weakness in his thought. He puts too much faith in the self-restraint of his leaders. Machiavelli tells us that men are venal self-deceivers, but then he gives his Prince permission to do all these monstrous things, trusting him not to get carried away or turn into a monster himself. Our founders were more careful. Our founders understood that leaders are as venal and untrustworthy as anybody else. They abhorred concentrated power, and they set up checks and balances to disperse it.

Our drone policy should take account of our founders' superior realism. Drone strikes are so easy, hidden and abstract. There should be some independent judicial panel to review the kill lists. There should be an independent panel of former military and intelligence officers issuing reports on the program's efficacy. If you take Machiavelli's tough-minded view of human nature, you have to be brutal to your enemies — but you also have to set up skeptical checks on the people you empower to destroy them. □

Hard work pays off for Rio's Carnival parade



Performers from the Unidos da Tijuca samba school parade during carnival celebrations at the Sambadrome in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. (AP Photo/Hassan Ammar)

JULIANA BARBASSA

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) —

There's nothing glamorous about the industrial warehouse reverberating with the zap of soldering metal, the clatter of hammers and an earsplitting whine of a circular saw, or in the sweat-drenched workers toiling in the midafternoon summer heat among huge bolts of cloth and heavy-duty sewing machines.

Yet it's from warehouses like this one that Rio's over-the-top glitz-and-glam Carnival parades emerge, as they will Monday night for the final round of a two-day performance. The internationally renowned competition between 12 elite samba groups dazzles more than a billion spectators in person and on TV for two days, but it takes nearly a year and hundreds of workers, many of them volunteers, to pull each one together. "We're anonymous artists. The public has no idea who builds all this," said Angelica da Silva Bernardes, one of those working in the warehouse run by the Grande Rio group. She's a telemarketer who cuts her day job to part-time during the pre-Carnival season to help out her group in the afternoons and evenings. "Our motivation is seeing the way people light up when they see our work." Bernardes is part of an army of dedicated workers who spend

their days, and, as Carnival approaches, their nights, designing, welding, carving, cutting, sewing and embroidering, all to create a seamless spectacle for others. It's hard work. Grandmothers strain their eyes sewing for hours. Paint-stained young men in old shorts and flip-flops take naps on ratty pieces of foam laid out between work tables in the wood shops after pushing through the night. In the days leading up to the parade, the intensity revs up, and there are fewer breaks. Directing the madness at Grande Rio's warehouse is Roberto Szaniecki, the "carnavalesco," or artistic director, who works in an all-white office on a floor above the work space, surrounded by large computer screens, slick new laptops and a team of architects, graphic designers, clothing designers, theater set producers and other technical help. Carnival means a lot to Cariocas, as Rio's residents are known. It must be taken seriously, he said.

"It's our culture, our rhythm, our aesthetic language," he said. "It's the greatest show on Earth, and it's a source of pride for the country. It's a message we send about who we are." Grande Rio chose a controversial theme this year: the benefits that cash derived from offshore oil drilling bring to Rio. The revenues, disputed by other inland

states, must be invested in the safety infrastructure and health clinics that are essential for Rio residents, the group's song argues. The Portela group, which has won the most honors at the Sambadrome over the years, chose this year to honor Madureira, the north side neighborhood where it was born nearly a century ago. The group reached back in history to the days when sugar was king and vast plantations covered the state.

Jorge Gomes, a construction worker in the off-season, worked through lunch on a recent day affixing gold lame to a Portela float representing a sugar cane farm, complete with a fancy 19th century carriage,

luxuriant green stalks rising 15 feet (4.5 meters) in the air, and majestic busts of the black men and women who were enslaved to work the fields.

"This is my passion," he said, adding that it is a love shared with his wife, son and nephew, all of them hard at work on the Portela floats that had an hour and 20 minutes to shine in the Sambadrome starting at 2:25 a.m. Monday. "I'll leave any job I'm doing when Carnival approaches." Many of those dedicated to the roller-coaster of Carnival preparations describe it as Gomes did: an irresistible addiction. The tension of not knowing if it will all come together in time, followed by the great blowout that is the parade, makes them feel alive in a way nothing else does.

Those who love this can't stop themselves from returning, year after year, in spite of the exhaustion, the cost and the time eaten up in the process, said Claudio Schneider, a hairdresser who stops working every August to dedicate himself exclusively to being an "aderecista" responsible for the decorations that top the floats. He doesn't return to hair until after February.

"I can't stay away," Schneider said. "I go to bed at 5 a.m., get up three hours later and keep working. There is no money that

pays for that kind of dedication."

He also was taking part in the parade this year, one of the plumed figures in the group's procession.

Gomes' life also revolves around Portela. "This takes all the best I have to give: time, money, family, dedication," he said.

He has been building floats since he was 13, and has developed a technique for carving in plastic foam. Over the years, however, he's learned to do any job needed, he said as he explained with pride of ownership the step-by-step of putting a float together.

First, a metal structure is fabricated to provide the "bones" of the float, he said. Then come the basic wooden blocks, which need to be sturdy enough to hold dozens of costumed samba-dancing participants for hours. Then the elaborate decorations — fiberglass or plastic foam sculptures, which must be draped in cloth, painted or embroidered.

Unlike Schneider, Gomes seldom joins in the parade, preferring to watch from the stands so he doesn't miss any of the show. He confessed that he cries when he sees his work debut on the parade ground.

"Each year, it's a child of mine that is born before the public eye," he said. "The emotion is too big for words." □



A dancer performs atop a float during Inocentes de Belford Roxo samba school parade at the Sambadrome during carnival celebrations in Rio de Janeiro. (AP Photo/Silvia Izquierdo)